

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

**1. Name of Property**historic name Elkridge Furnace Complexother names/site number HO-367**2. Location**street & number 5730 & 5741-5745 Furnace Ave., 5735 Race Road N/A not for publicationcity, town Elkridge N/A vicinitystate Maryland code MD county Howard code 027 zip code 21227**3. Classification**

## Ownership of Property

- ☐ private  
☐ public-local  
☒ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

## Category of Property

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

## Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>6</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>6</u>	<u>0</u> Total

name of related multiple property listing:

N/ANumber of contributing resources previously  
listed in the National Register 0**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the  
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

3/14/90In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined eligible for the National  
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.  
☐ removed from the National Register.  
☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

HO-367

**Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)**

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/institutional housing

COMMERCE/TRADE/office

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing facility

**Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)**

VACANT/not in use

**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Greek Revival

**Materials (enter categories from instructions)**

foundation brick

walls brick

roof asphalt

other wood

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.****DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:**

The Elkridge Furnace Complex comprises the six remaining buildings of an iron furnace which operated from the 18th century into the 1860s. Included are a large and refined 2 1/2 story side passage double-pile Federal/Greek Revival house, the residence of the furnace owner, constructed ca. 1835; a frame dwelling of approximately the same date which probably accommodated a manager or clerk; a 2 1/2 story, 5-bay center-passage company store and hotel or dormitory for furnace workers; two nineteenth century 14' x 16' plank outbuildings, possibly slave quarters; and a mid-19th century brick duplex worker's dwelling. The complex retains a high degree of integrity.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 7 Page 7.1GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Owner's Residence, ca. 1835

Located on the north side of Furnace Avenue, between the road and the Patapsco River, the main house is a large 2 1/2 story brick side-passage double-pile dwelling with a two story kitchen wing. The principal (south) facade is laid in Flemish bond with extremely fine mortar joints and gauged brick jack arches. The south facade is three bays wide, with the entrance in the east bay. This entrance features fine transitional Federal-Green Revival detailing, and consists of double leaf doors with five panels each, flanked by narrow sidelights within a broad architrave. The door panels are recessed with Grecian ovolo panel molds. The sidelights have oval leaded tracery. The architrave is unmolded, except for a heavy Grecian ovolo at the edge of the jamb; the strips between the jamb and sidelights terminate in faceted corner blocks.

The other openings on both the first and second stories hold large 6/6 sash windows with half-round molded frames and wooden sills. A Colonial Revival porch with turned columns spans the facade; beneath the porch, 8-pane cellar windows with early iron bars are aligned below the first-floor window openings.

A two-course corbeled cornice marks the eave. The gable roof has a prominent overhang, probably the result of a Victorian period renovation; the roof framing, however, appears to remain unaltered. A late-19th-century clipped-gable dormer is centered on the south slope just above the eave; the triangular space under the shallow pitched dormer is sheathed in German siding with a central 6/6 sash.

Brick interior chimney stacks with corbeled caps; emerge from the roof about midway up the south and north slopes. Their location, offset to the east of center, reflects the unusual placement of the fireplaces against the masonry partition wall between the stair passage and the principal rooms; a more typical arrangement would locate the fireplaces against the gable end wall.

The west elevation, like all the other walls of the house, is laid in 5-course bond. The west gable is four bays wide, with two large 6/6 windows to the north of center and one to the south; the southernmost bay is unfenestrated. This pattern characterizes both the first and second stories. Eight-pane cellar windows are aligned below the first-floor openings; the northernmost window is closed with a pair of batten shutters hung on strap hinges, and the others have early iron bars. All openings have plain (i.e., not gauged) jack arches; window frames have a half-round profile and wooden sills.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 7 Page 7.2

A large semicircular window is centered in the upper gable, comprising a 6/6 sash flanked by fixed multipane lunettes set in an arched openings. The peak of the gable overhang is clipped.

The north slope of the roof has a single gable-roofed dormer with 6/6 sash located to the west of center.

A two-story, three bay kitchen wing extends to the north. Its west wall is flush with the west gable of the main house, and the brickwork appears to be continuous, indicating a single period of construction. On the first story, a transomed entrance is located slightly south of center, flanked on either side by 6/6 windows. A Victorian one-bay shed-roofed porch sheltered the entrance until recently; a flight of four granite steps to a granite deck remain. A bulkhead entrance in the south bay provides access to the cellar, lighted by an 8-pane window in the north bay. First floor and cellar level openings have jack arches. Three 6/6 windows are ranged across the second story, below a two-course corbeled cornice. The west slope of the gable roof has two gabled dormers with 6/6 sash; Grecian ovolo-plus-fillet molding decorates their eaves and rake, with short returns on the front.

The north gable wall of the kitchen is unfenestrated. A two-story gallery comprises the eastern third of this elevation, recessed within the unbroken pitch of the roof. The triangular area above the ceiling of the gallery is enclosed with plain weatherboards. Beaded, tapered rakeboards follow the slope; an interior chimney with corbeled cap rises from the peak of the gable.

The east elevation of the kitchen wing is spanned by the gallery mentioned above. At the first-floor level, this porch has turned columns which appear early, and a recently rebuilt brick deck; on the upper level, there is a balustrade with rectangular balusters and an oval-section rail; the porch posts are square up to the handrail, and turned above it. There is a board ceiling on the first level, while the gallery ceiling is finished with plaster. Under the porch, in the east elevation, there is a transomed kitchen entrance flanked by 6/6 windows on the first level, and two doors on the second level providing independent access from the second-floor passage and chamber, with a 6/6 window in the north bay. Early louvered shutters survive in this protected location. Entrances at the south end of the porch provide access to and from the main house on both levels. A gabled dormer is located to the north of center on the east slope of the roof.

The north elevation of the main house is entirely covered by the kitchen wing and integral gallery. One corbel course is just visible at cornice level above the roof of the wing, but the Victorian eave overhang conceals most of this treatment.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 7 Page 7.3

The east gable of the main house has two barred cellar windows. Entrances with six-panel doors are offset to the south of center on both the first and second stories; although both of these entrances are well above ground level, there is no readily observable evidence of a former porch or stair or porch serving them. On the second story, a 6/6 window located to the right of the door lights the stair passage; there is a pair of smaller 6/6 windows in the gable peak. The clipped gable overhang seen on the west elevation is repeated on this side.

The interior is organized in a side passage plan, with the passage running the depth of the house along the east side, and two equal sized rooms opening off the passage on the west.

The first floor is characterized by an extremely high level of refinement in decorative detailing, reflecting transitional Federal-Greek Revival influence. The stair passage is the most elaborately decorated public space, and sets the tone for the rooms which open off it. Six-panel doors have shallow-fielded panels with Grecian-ovolo-plus-fillet panel molds, and are framed by complex symmetrically molded architraves with corner blocks enriched by an unusual four-leaf foliated motif in full relief. A heavy plaster cornice incorporating several classical molding profiles encircles the passage; around the ceiling within the cornice, the architrave molding and corner blocks repeated in plaster. Plaster molding divides the ceiling into three panels, each with a circular medallion with profiles derived from the cornice molding; the central medallion is larger and features an elaborate grapevine motif. The stepped baseboard is capped by a double Grecian ovolo and fillet.

The two-run stair rises against the east wall. Slender tapered tiger maple balusters carry an oval-section walnut handrail which ends in a scroll at the "squirrel cage" newel.

The step ends are decorated with scrollwork, and the area under the carriage is paneled, with panel profiles and molds matching those found in the doors. At the north end of the passage, an original louvered door under the stair landing opens into a small vestibule affording communication between the dining room, cellar, and porch. It is noteworthy that the corner blocks in this small service area are plain, lacking the foliated element.

The south parlor and north dining room exhibit a level of finish consistent with that established in the passage. Architrave and baseboard trim are identical, and the plaster cornice and ceiling treatments are also the same except that these rooms have a single central medallion without the grapevine motif. Large 6/6 windows are set in splayed jambs with a heavy bead at the edge; the area below each window has a single horizontal panel matching the door panels. A pair of large double leaf doors with eight panels each is centered in the partition separating these two rooms.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 7 Page 7.4

The parlor and dining room are heated by fireplaces with Classical mantels of black marble. As noted above, these interior fireplaces are backed up against the east wall of these rooms, i.e. the partition separating them from the passage, a highly unusual configuration.

A door in the west corner of the north wall of the dining room opens into a large pantry, through which access is gained to the kitchen. The north gable wall of the kitchen is dominated by a large cooking fireplace which retains an early iron crane. To the left of the fireplace, original built-in cabinets occupy the area between the chimney breast and the west wall.

The south wall of the kitchen is a board partition with three doors+ to a closet on the east, a winder stair in the approximate center, and the pantry on the west.

The winder stair rises from the kitchen to a small cross-passage, with a door to the upper level of the gallery at its east end and a modern bathroom inserted at the west end. A chamber over the kitchen opens off the north side of the passage. This room is heated by a fireplace in the north gable wall. An elaborate Greek Revival mantel, with symmetrically molded pilasters supporting a paneled frieze and complex-molded shelf, framing an outstanding iron fireplace insert bearing the mark of Ellicott's Elkridge Furnace. Original closets flank the fireplace (the one to the left has been enlarged); the interior plaster shows evidence of original shelving.

The main stair rises to a broad landing which has a door in the north wall opening onto the upper level of the gallery. The stair turns and continues to the second-floor passage, which is lighted by a 6/6 window in the west wall; next to this window, there is a door opening to the outside, although there is no evidence on the exterior of the former porch or gallery this door would have served, nor in fact of any provision for such a porch which may have been intended but not realized. The passage features decorative detailing consistent with that of the first floor.

Two chambers open off the passage to the west, and there is another small room at the south end of the passage. The chambers are heated by fireplaces with Greek Revival influenced mantels, comprising columns supporting bulls-eye side blocks flanking a symmetrically molded frieze and complex molded shelf. The architrave and baseboard trim is similar to that downstairs, but slightly simplified; the corner blocks have bull's eyes, not foliated motifs, and the baseboard profile lacks one element. The small unheated room at the end of the passage has a 3-pane transom over the door, and a shallow built-in cabinet has narrow double-leaf doors.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-267

Section number 7 Page 7.5

The half-story of the main block contains four small, simply finished rooms. Two of these have fireplaces with backband surrounds and molded shelves; the other two are unheated. There are two unheated rooms in the half-story of the kitchen wing.

**Company Store and Hotel or Dormitory, 2nd quarter 19th Century**

Abutting the main house on the east is a 2 1/2 story, five-bay, gable roofed building constructed of brick laid in 5-course bond. This building is labeled "store" on Martenet's 1860 map, and was probably constructed in the second quarter of the 19th century. The south facade, facing Furnace Avenue, has a central entrance with a (replacement) door framed by narrow panels and surmounted by a transom. A heavy twisted iron bar runs across the transom. The entrance is flanked by pairs of 6/6 windows in half-round molded frames, with jack arch lintels and wooden sills. A hipped porch spans the three center bays. Five 6/6 windows are ranged across the second story. The eaves are finished with a box cornice with a cove crown mold, cove-and-bead bed mold, and a plain fascia.

The main house adjoins the west gable end of this building about two-thirds of the way back. There is a single 6/6 window centrally located at both second floor and attic level. A corbeled interior end chimney, is set back to the north of the ridge.

The north elevation, oriented to the Patapsco River, is similar to the south facade, with a transomed entrance in the central bay flanked on either side by two 6/6 windows. The first-floor windows retain flat-paneled shutters with the unusual feature of iron strap reinforcements across the inner face of the lower panels, and hardware for barring them from inside. This feature, and the iron bar across the south transom, reflect a concern with security consistent with the building's commercial use.

The east gable elevation has a small transomed entrance in the north corner, and bulkhead at the south end. The bulkhead retains its original beaded batten doors in a beaded surround behind a later granite structure with steel doors. There is evidence that a small gable-roofed addition formerly existed against the northern half of this elevation. The uppers stories each have a centered 6/6 window, and an interior end chimney is offset to the north of the ridge.

The interior is laid out in a center passage plan, with two unequal-sized rooms on either side. The winder stair near the north end of the passage is the result of a post-Victorian reorientation; evidence suggests that the original stair ran in a steep, straight flight from just inside the north door.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 7 Page 7.6

The partition which formerly separated the southeast and northeast rooms has been removed, but its location is apparent on the ceiling joists. The northeast room was the smaller of the two, and had a plastered ceiling. This room was heated (the fireplace mantel has been lost) and finished with symmetrically-molded architrave trim with bull's-eye corner blocks. This room was accessible both through the center passage, and also by means of an independent entrance from outside, located in the east gable wall facing the furnace.

The southeast room was considerably larger and less finely detailed. This room was unheated, and the ceiling joists were left exposed with beaded edges. Window and door frames in this room (and in the two western first-floor rooms as well as the south end of the passage) have simple double-half-round trim.

Two rooms open off the west side of the passage. As on the east side, the northwest room is heated while the southwest room is not. It appears that these two rooms did not originally communicate with one another. The northwest room has a doorway to the main house in the west gable wall.

Architectural evidence suggests that the buildings's primary orientation was to the north, toward the river. The north end of the passage has more formal detailing than the south end, and the stair originally rose from just inside the north door. The small northwest room is the most carefully finished of the four rooms on the first floor; its level of finish, and the independent entrance, suggest that this room functioned as a public space, perhaps an office. The unheated south rooms may have held merchandise, and the northwest room -- heated and communicating directly with the main house -- may have served as a counting room.

The upper stories contain sleeping chambers. Local tradition holds that the building functioned as a hotel; this may be correct, but a dormitory for furnace workers would be an equally likely interpretation. On the second story, the two north rooms are larger than the south rooms, and feature fireplaces with Greek Revival mantels, symmetrical architrave trim with bull's-eye corner blocks, and beaded baseboards. The three south rooms are unheated, and have double-half-round trim and plain baseboards. The two unheated rooms in the half-story have peg rails in addition to woodwork like that of the second floor south rooms. The west attic room retains a beaded batten door.

## Plank Outbuildings (2), Nineteenth Century

Northwest of the house are two 14' x 16' one-story gable-roofed outbuildings, of dovetailed plank construction on stone foundations. The one just west of the kitchen wing has a two-bay facade, with a beaded-batten door in a beaded frame in its left bay and a 6/6 window to the right, closed with a batten shutter. The west gable is unfenestrated. The north elevation has a



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

HO-367

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 7.7

single 6/6 window opening, approximately centered, with a batten shutter. An exterior chimney stack formerly rose against the east gable; to the right of the chimney location, a small batten door, probably reached by a ladder, affords the only access to the loft. The building is sheathed in circular-sawn weatherboards, secured with machine nails. Where this siding has been removed, as on the south elevation, traces of whitewash and red paint remain on the planks; the east gable, facing the kitchen, retains evidence of an early exterior finish of smooth plaster. The building is constructed of pitted planks which were evidently reused, as they exhibit numerous plugged one-inch holes at approximately regular intervals, as well as several open mortises distributed at random.

The interior of this building is finished with plaster over riven lath secured with machine nails. The floor is excavated to about a foot below grade and paved with brick. The remains of a large brick fireplace are centered on the east wall, flanked by brick facing up to about waist height. Window and door frames are finished with a narrow band of molding primarily federal in character. Several carved hanging pegs are placed in various locations around the room. There is no evidence of interior access to the loft, which is also plastered.

The other outbuilding, located about 40' to the west, is identical in form and construction but exhibits a much lower degree of interior finish. Here the floor is dirt, the walls and ceiling merely whitewashed, and there is no evidence of decorative architrave trim. A crude stair is located in the northwest corner; although this is clearly a modern stair, the header is mortised into the top gable plank and ceiling joists in such a way as to suggest it is in an original location. In the loft, the gable studs are tenoned into the top plank and toe-nailed against the end rafters with machine nails. A squarish 4-pane window is offset to the south in the east gable; a small door is centered in the west gable. The common rafters are hewn from reused timber; some are lapped at the ridge but an equal number are mitered, and there is no discernable pattern to the distribution of the two types.

Manager or Clerk's House, ca. 1835

Opposite the main house at 5730 Furnace Avenue is a 2 1/2 story gable-roofed frame side-passage single pile dwelling with an original kitchen ell. This building is sheathed in wide weatherboards, and features a small pedimented portico over its transomed entrance. The interior retains the majority of its original decorative detailing, which reflects a period and stylistic influences consistent with that of the main house, albeit on a lesser scale. It is a reasonable assumption that this house accommodated a manager or clerk associated with the furnace operations in the second quarter of the 19th century.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Elkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 7 Page 7.8

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Brick Duplex, mid 19th Century

South of the furnace site, at 5730 Race Road, stands a two-story brick duplex with a low-pitched gable roof, which presumably housed furnace workers in the mid-19th century. This building has been extensively altered with the conversion to a single family dwelling in the early 20th century, and more recently by the application of blue synthetic siding, but nevertheless retains sufficient integrity of form, materials, and location to reflect its association with the manufacturing complex.

See Continuation Sheet No. 7.9

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

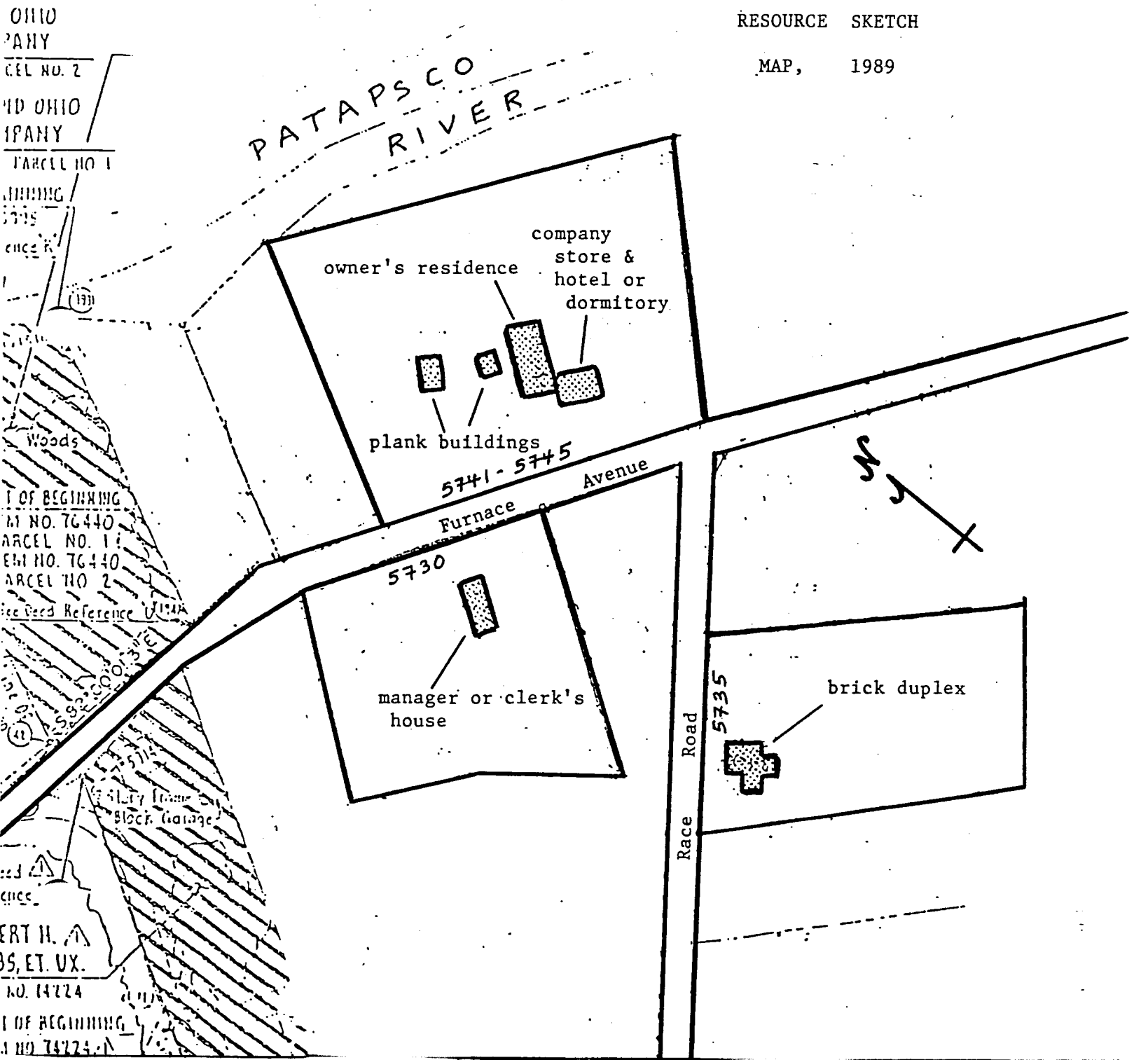
Elkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 7 Page 7.9

RESOURCE SKETCH

MAP, 1989



**8. Statement of Significance**

HO-367

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locallyApplicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Industry

Period of Significance

c.1835-1868

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

**SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:**

The Elkridge Furnace Complex is significant for the architectural character of some of its buildings and for its association with the iron industry in nineteenth century Maryland. Architecturally, the owner's residence is an unusually sophisticated example of a second-quarter nineteenth century house for then-rural Howard County. Characterized by refined Federal-Greek Revival woodwork, the house has an unusual interior chimney placement, ornate ceiling plaster work, double doors between the first floor parlors, and stone mantels. Adding to architectural significance are two buildings of dovetailed plank construction. These buildings are rare examples of a form of construction once believed to be relatively common. Historically, the Elkridge Furnace Complex adds to our knowledge of the iron industry. The complex buildings reflect domestic aspects of the managers and workers plus insights into the commercial aspect. Of particular note is the company store and hotel dormitory. This building with its high degree of integrity of plan and features permits inferences regarding the building's functions. Especially noteworthy are the early security devices and the hierarchy of finishes reflecting the status of various rooms. The only approximately comparable building known in the state is the Harford Furnace Store in Harford County which has been extensively altered.

☒ See continuation sheet for  
HISTORIC CONTEXT and MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN data.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Elkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 8 Page 8.1

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agricultural/Industrial Transition A. D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning

Economic (Commercial and Industrial)

Resource Type:

Category: buildings

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/institutional housing

COMMERCE/TRADE/office

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing facility

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.2

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 8 Page 8.2HISTORIC CONTEXT:

The tract of which the land associated with the Elkridge Furnace Complex is a part was originally surveyed by Robert Hughes and resurveyed by James McCubbin in 1744. McCubbins' property was incorporated into a 1730-acre tract known as "Walker's Inheritance" through a resurvey by Dr. James Walker in 1744. Elkridge Furnace was established by Caleb Dorsey, who bought a portion of the Walker property at an unknown date. By 1768 the furnace required rebuilding, which was accomplished by a Dr. Howard.

The property changed hands many times into the first quarter of the 19th century. By 1820, the furnace was operated by John and Andrew Ellicott. The Ellicotts rebuilt the furnace to a much larger capacity, enabling them to produce 16,000 tons of pig iron in 1826. In 1836, the Ellicotts purchased the complex from Nehemiah Rowles. The furnace continued to be operated by Jonathan Ellicott and Sons until 1854 when Henry William Ellicott sold the property to Robert Howard.

The buildings comprising the present Elkridge Furnace Complex were in all likelihood constructed during the Ellicotts' tenure. Stylistic features in conjunction with construction technology suggest that the main house, outbuildings, manager's dwelling and store/dormitory were all built within a fairly close time frame centered on the mid-1830s.

Robert Howard sold the property to the Great Falls Iron Company in 1858 for \$71,000. The transaction included "all personal property of Robert Howard... horses, mules, oxen, wagons and carts, hay, straw, grain, feed, manure and farming utensils, furnace tools, fixtures and machinery, engine and boilers, baskets and barrows with materials for the manufacture of iron ore, coal, wood, shells. Fire brick, old iron, iron pipe, patterns, flasks, etc. and the stack of good wares and merchandise in the store of the said Howard at Elkridge Landing": (Deed of 25 Jan., 1858 - liber 19, folio 132). Martenet's 1860 map of Howard County shows the complex as a dozen or more buildings along Furnace Avenue to the west and are indicated as belonging to the Great Falls Iron Company. These buildings, probably workers' houses, have not survived.

The Patapsco River flooded in 1868, destroying the furnace. The property passed to Robert H. Brown in 1887. Brown was probably responsible for the Victorian alterations to the main house which included the Furness-inspired clipped dormer and gable eaves.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Elkridge Furnace Complex  
Harford County, Maryland

HA-367

Section number 8 Page 8.3

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Brown sold the property to Joseph Toomey, Jr. in 1904; it remained in the Toomey family until 1971, when it was sold to Irwin Lowe. The property was acquired by the State of Maryland in the 1980s.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

HA-367

Howard County Land Records, Courthouse, Ellicott City, MD.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis (statewide and Howard County).**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)  
has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings  
Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ See continuation sheet**Primary location of additional data:**

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of property approximately 6 acres  
USGS quad Relay, MD**UTM References**

A 

1	8	3	5	2	9	3	0	4	3	4	1	5	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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☐ See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**☒ See continuation sheets No. 10.1, 10.2, 10.3

**Boundary Justification** The nominated property consists of the three detached parcels upon which the historic resource stand. The surrounding parcels are characterized by mostly twentieth century houses and commercial buildings - all non-furnace associated - many of which have been or will be demolished. Areas along the river are now Howard County park land.

☐ See continuation sheet**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Peter E. Kurtze, Historic Sites Survey Administrator

organization Maryland Historical Trust date 1989

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 974-5000

city or town Annapolis state Maryland zip code 21401



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 10 Page 10.1

BEGINNING FOR THE First on the East side of the Elkridge Road at the Southeast corner of a lot conveyed by Robert H. Brown and his wife, to Joseph H. Toomey and wife by Deed dated December 21, 1904 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber WWLC 80, folio 229, thence running along the East side of said road South 51 1/4 degrees East 18.95 perches to a fence corner, thence along said fence North 53 degrees East 16 perches to the Southwest bank of the Patapsco River thence along the water of said river North 47 degrees West 23 3/4 perches to the end of the second line of said parcel from Robert H. Brown and his wife to Joseph H. Toomey and his wife, thence reversing said line South 36 degrees West 17 perches to the place of beginning containing therein 2.2 acres of land more or less. The improvements thereon being now known as 5741-45 Furnace Avenue.

Being the same lot of ground which by Deed dated July 13, 1987 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County, Maryland in Liber 1705 Folio 156, was granted and conveyed by Irwin Lowe and Patsy A. Lowe, his wife to the Grantors herein.

BEGINNING FOR THE Second at an iron pipe heretofore set on the south edge of the country road known as Race Road, the said point being at 184.42 feet on the second or south 59-1/2 West 36.3 perches line of that land, the land herein described being a part thereof, which by deed dated February 27, 1906 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber No. 81, folio 561, etc., was granted and conveyed by March M. Dempster to James N. Fitzgerald and Lizzie V. Fitzgerald, his wife, and running with the said road and reversely with a part of the said second line to the origin thereof, as now surveyed: (1) North 63 degrees, 19 minutes 36 seconds East 184.42 feet to a stone heretofore set, thence leaving the said road and running reversely with the first and sixth lines of the said land, (2) South 35 degrees 23 minutes 24 seconds East 364.68 feet, (3) South 80 degrees 49 minutes 36 seconds West 48.50 feet to the northeastern end of that land, which by deed dated May 26, 1970 and recorded among the said Land Records in Liber No. 533, folio 42, etc., was granted and conveyed by Marie Fitzgerald to Howard County (Department of Sewers) and running reversely with the tenth or South 45 degrees 20 minutes 48 seconds East 5.58 foot line of the said land; (4) North 35 degrees 58 minutes 42 seconds West 5.58 feet, thence running reversely with the ninth, eighth and a part of the seventh lines of the said conveyance to Howard County, thence with a curve to the left; (5) RADIUS - 230.00 feet subtended by the Chord: South 71 degrees 17 minutes 57 seconds West 71.74 feet, (6) South 62 degrees 19 minutes 36 seconds West 60.93 feet to a point on a straight line projection of the second or South 35 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds East 320.11 foot line of that line, which by deed dated April 22, 1971 and recorded among the said Land Records in Liber No. 556, folio 40, etc., was granted and conveyed by Marie I. Fitzgerald to Tilden O. Yancy and Rosetta M. Yancy, his wife, thence running reversely with the said projection in combination with the said second line of the said conveyance to Yancy; (7) North 35 degrees 25 minutes 24 seconds West 332.21 feet to the point of beginning, containing 2.265 acres of land, more or less. The improvements thereon being known and designated as 5735 Race Road.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetElkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 10 Page 10.2

This parcel of land is also shown on Minor Subdivision Plat No. M050 71, folio 12, filed in the Office of Planning and Zoning for Howard County, Maryland.

Being the same lot of ground which by Deed dated April 15, 1987 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber 1637 Folio 598 was granted and conveyed by Richard L. Spitznogle and Katherine A. Spitznogle, his wife to the grantors herein.

BEGINNING FOR THE Third on the West side of Furnace Road at the end of a line drawn South 23 degrees 30 minutes West 50.16 feet from a stone at the beginning of the land described in the deed dated December 21, 1904 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber W.W.L.C. No. 80, Folio 229, etc., from Robert H. Brown and others to Joseph H. Toomey, Jr. and wife, said point of beginning being also the beginning of a lot of ground conveyed on the 27th day of February 1906, by Mary M. Dempster to the said Joseph H. Toomey, Jr. and wife, and recorded among the land records of Howard County and running thence south 49 degrees 15 minutes East 120 feet, thence South 40 degrees 45 minutes west 247.57 feet, thence North 30 degrees 15 minutes West 126.91 feet to a stone, thence North 49 degrees 15 minutes West 115.50 feet thence North 40 degrees 45 minutes East 199.65 feet, thence South 52 degrees 31 minutes East 115.69 feet to the place of beginning, containing 1.163 acres of land, more or less.

Being the same lot of ground which by deeds dated July 15, 1987 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber 1702 Folio 186 and Liber 1702 Folio 474 was granted and conveyed by Roy A. Bauman County, Inc. to the grantors herein.

BEING the same land which by Deed dated October 17, 1918 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber H.B.N. 106, Folio 159, was granted and conveyed by John Pitzinger and wife to Lewis C. Tommey and Fannie L. Tommey, his wife.

SAVING AND EXCEPTING therefrom all that lot of ground devised by Barbara Ellen Toomey to her daughter, Helen Lucy Tommey, by Item 1, Paragraph B of her Last Will and Testament, recorded in Wills Liber R.D. 6 at Folio 376.

BEING also all that lot devised to Lewis C. Toomey by his mother, Barbara Ellen Toomey, by Item 2, Paragraph A of her Last Will and Testament dated July 3, 1923 and duly admitted to probate by the Orphan's Court of Howard County in the Office of the Register of Wills in Wills Liber R.D. 6 at Folio 376.

BEING also a part of that property which by deed dated September 1, 1955 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber R.H.M. 273, Folio 138, was granted and conveyed by Daniel M. Murray, Jr. and Marshall Hunter Murray, his wife, to Lewis C. Tommey and Frances L. Toomey, his wife.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Elkridge Furnace Complex  
Howard County, Maryland

HO-367

Section number 10 Page 10.3

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The said Lewis C. Toomey departed this Life on or about January 19, 1961 owning said parcels of land as a tenant by the entirety with Frances L. Toomey.

BEING also all that parcel of ground which by deed dated April 23, 1968 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber W.H.W. 486, Folio 785, was granted and conveyed by Leroy A. Bauman and Carolyn B. Bauman, his wife, to Frances L. Toomey.

The said Frances L. Toomey departed this life intestate on November 2, 1968, leaving as her only heir at law the said Lewis C. Toomey, Jr., the Grantor herein.

BEING all those parcel of ground which by Deed dated October 3, 1973 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber C.M.P. No. 656, Folio 110, was granted and conveyed by Lewis C. Toomey, Jr. to Roy a Bauman Co., Inc.

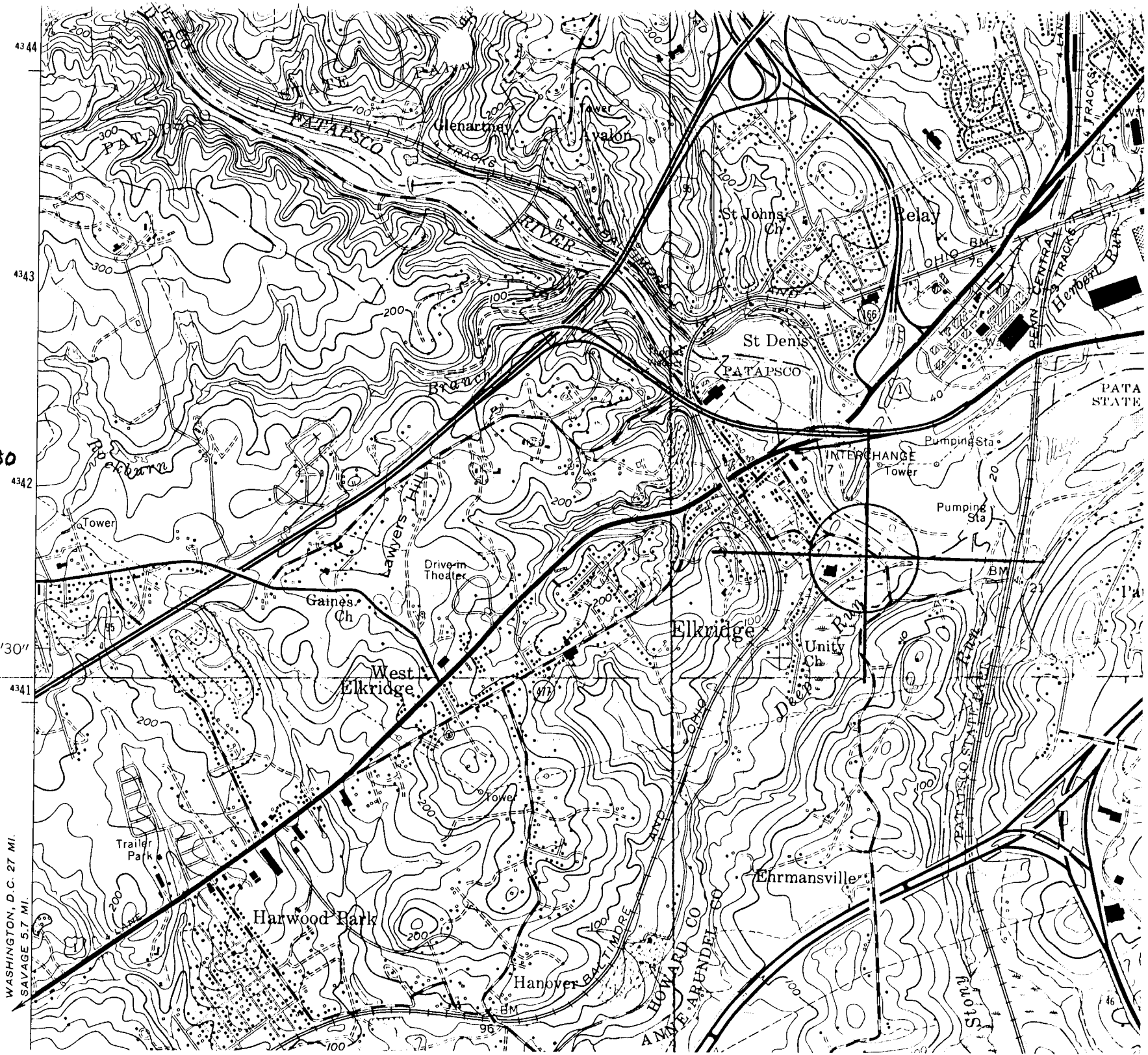
Elkridge  
Furnace  
Complex

HO-367

Howard Co.  
Maryland

18/352930/4341580

WASHINGTON, D.C. 27 MI.  
SAVAGE 5.7 MI.



HO-367





ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX No-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE AND STORE,  
VIEW FROM S.W.

1/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX No-367

HOWARD CO., MD

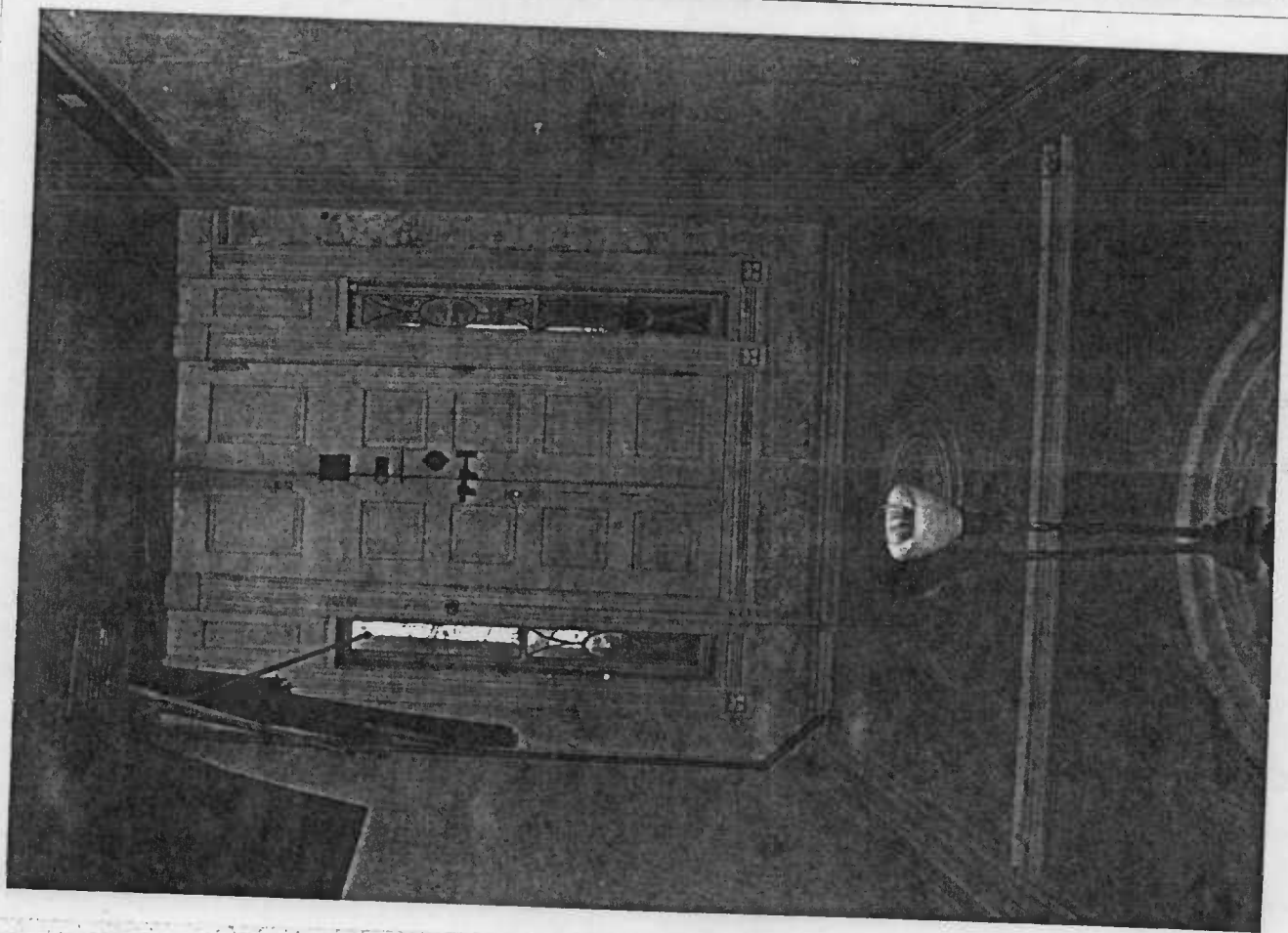
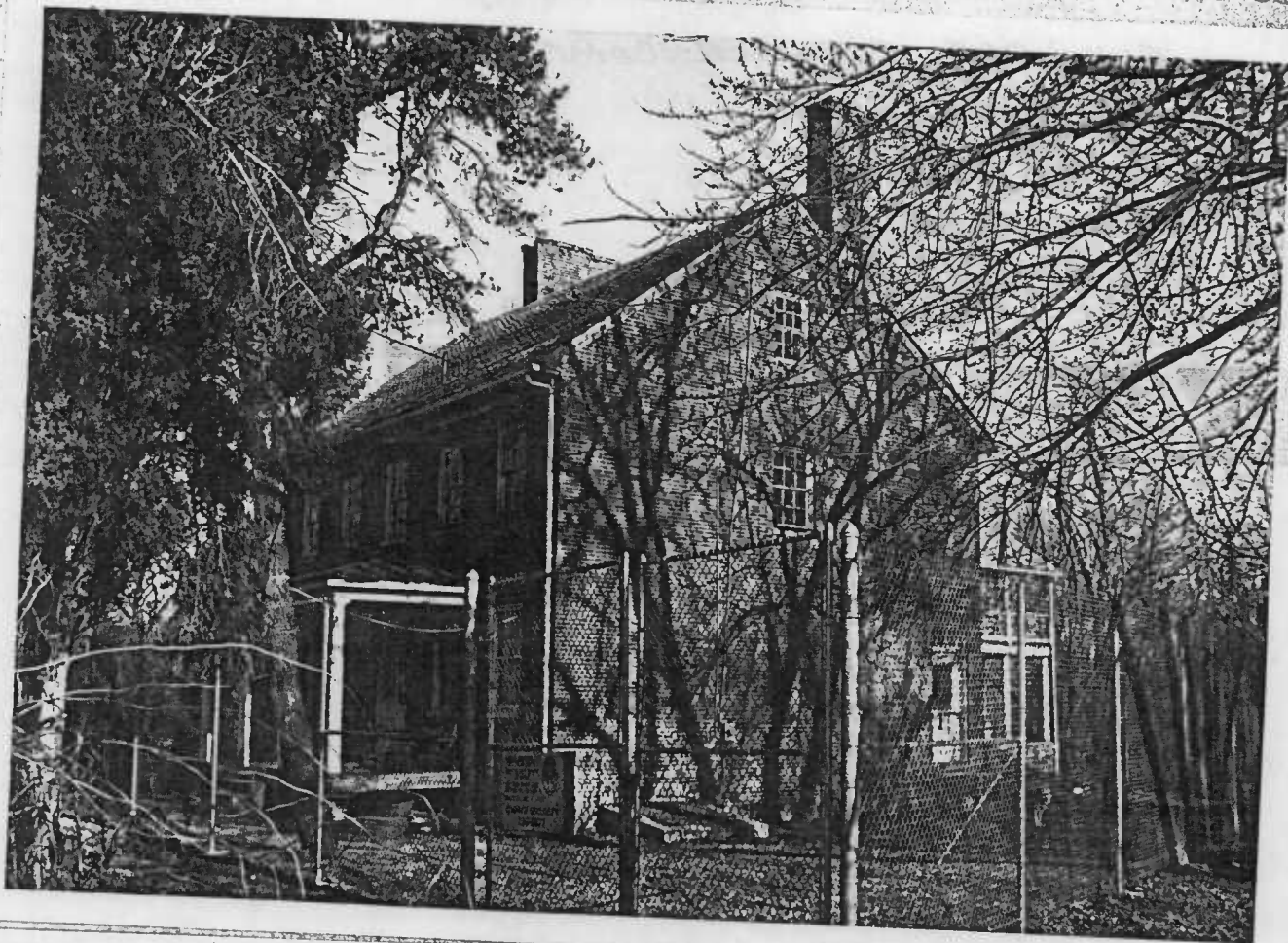
PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

~~THE~~ STORE, SOUTH FACADE

2/19

HO-367



ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX

NO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

STORE, VIEW FROM S.E.

3/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX NO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

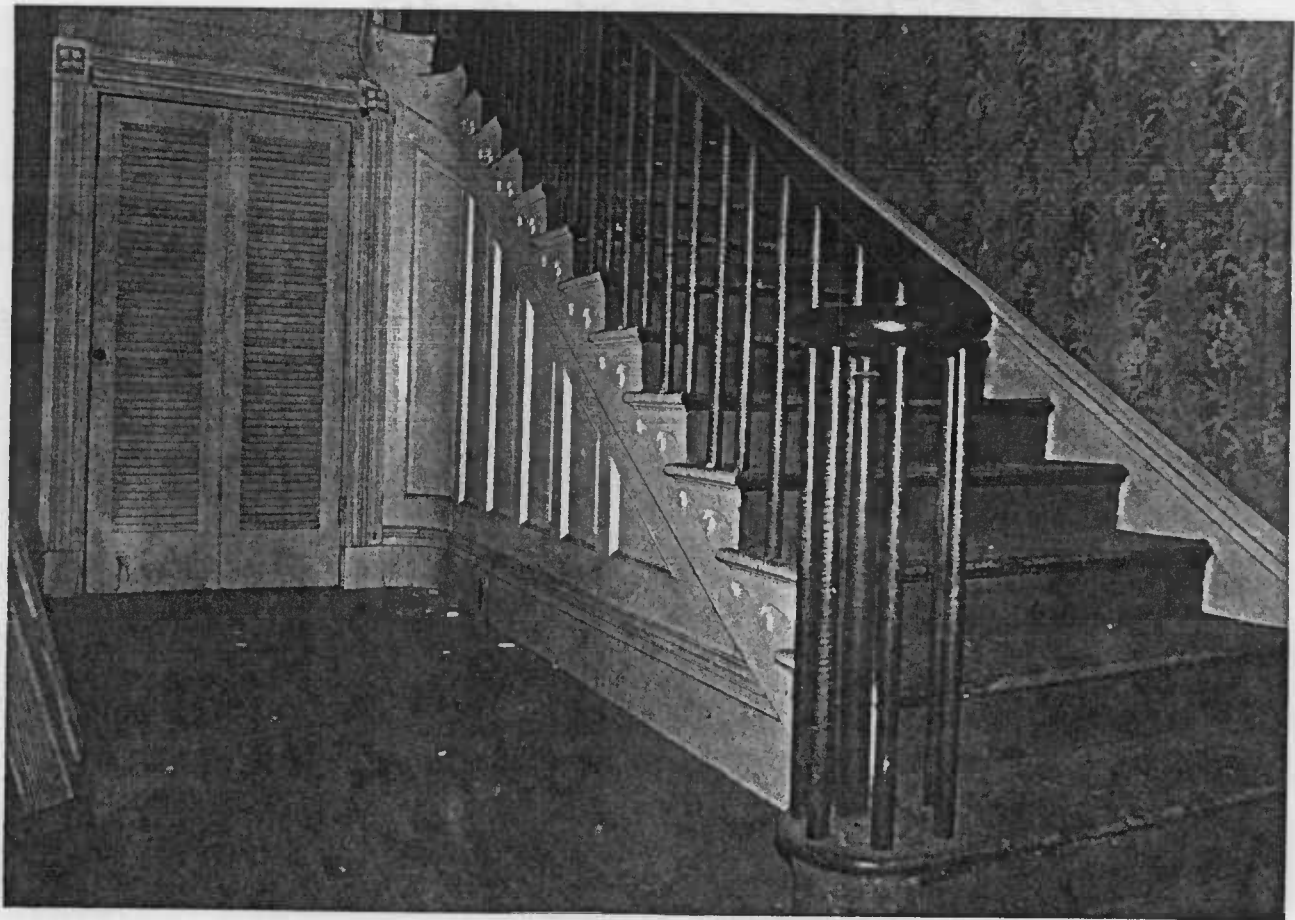
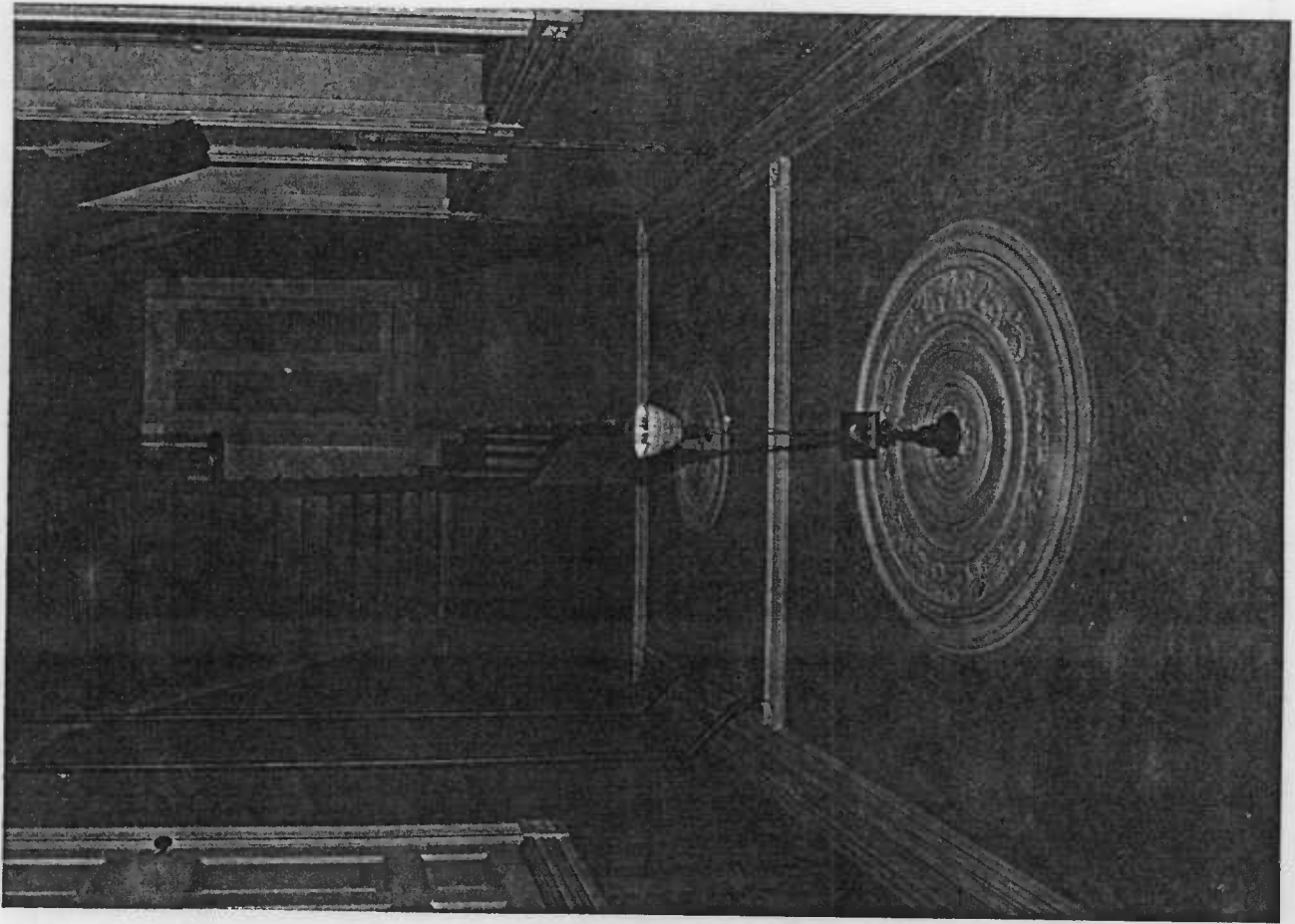
NEG AT MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, ENTRANCE HALL, FACING S.

4/19



H0-367



ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, ENTRANCE HALL, FACING N.

5/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

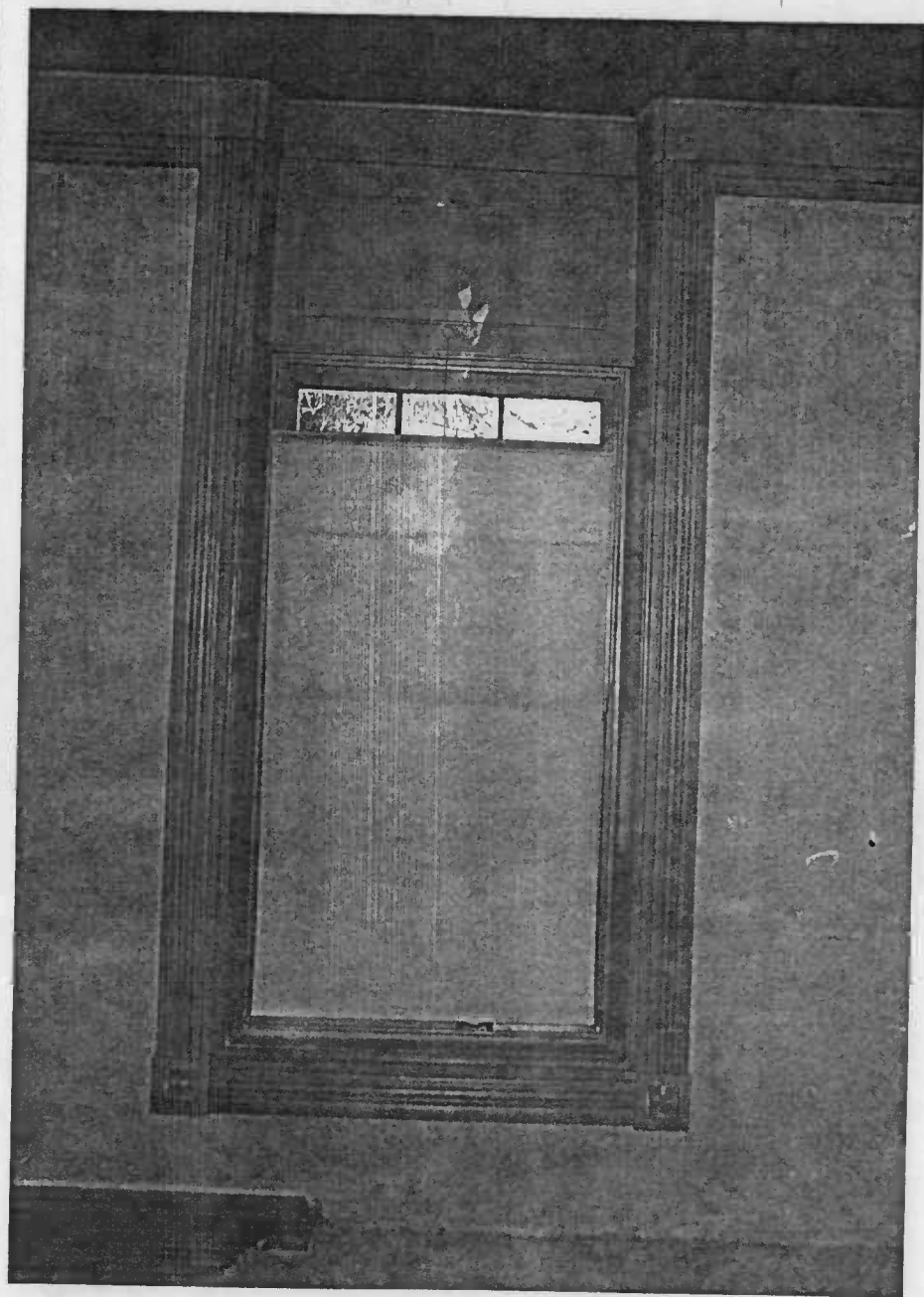
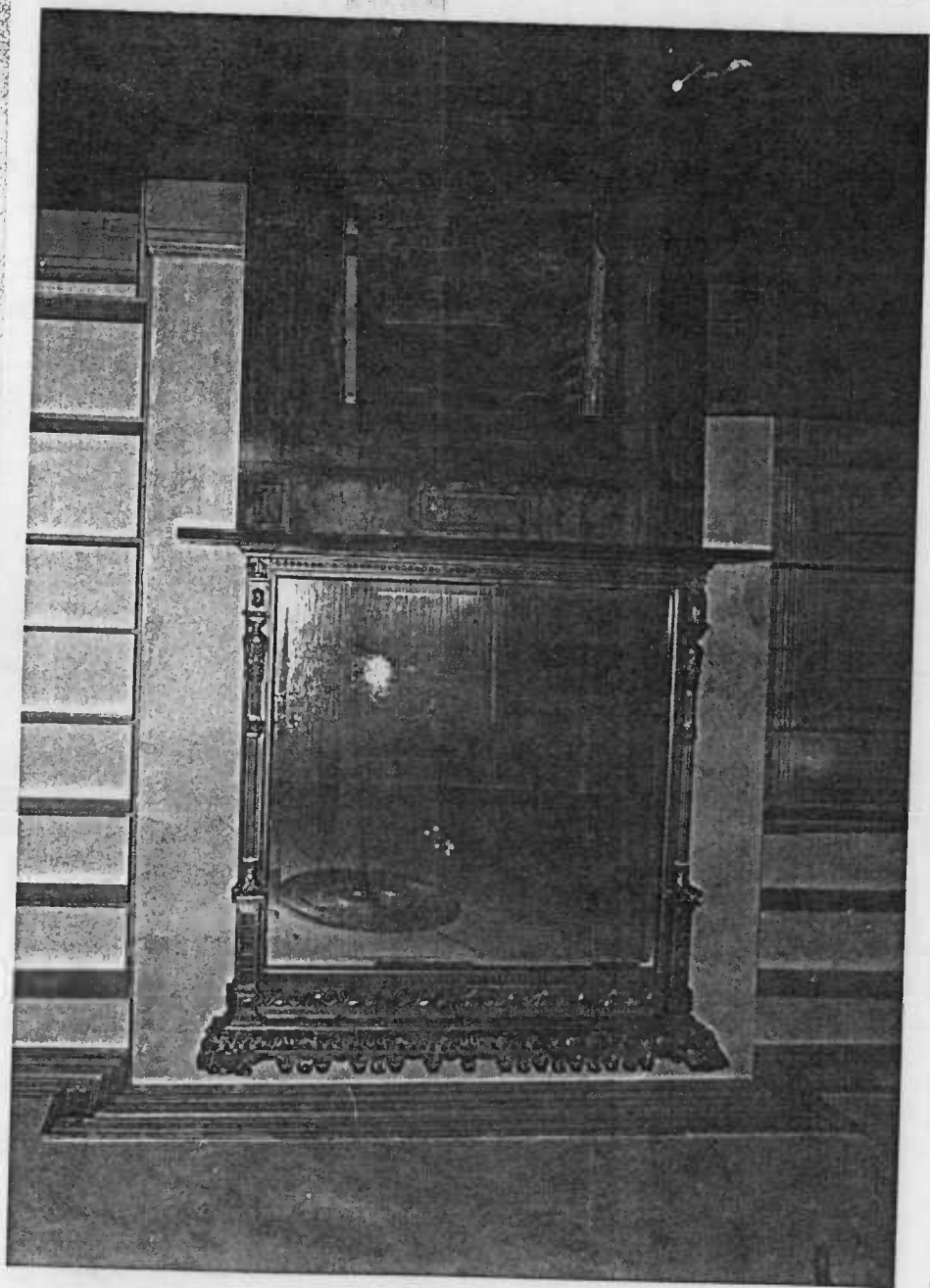
PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, STAIR DETAIL

6/19

HO-367

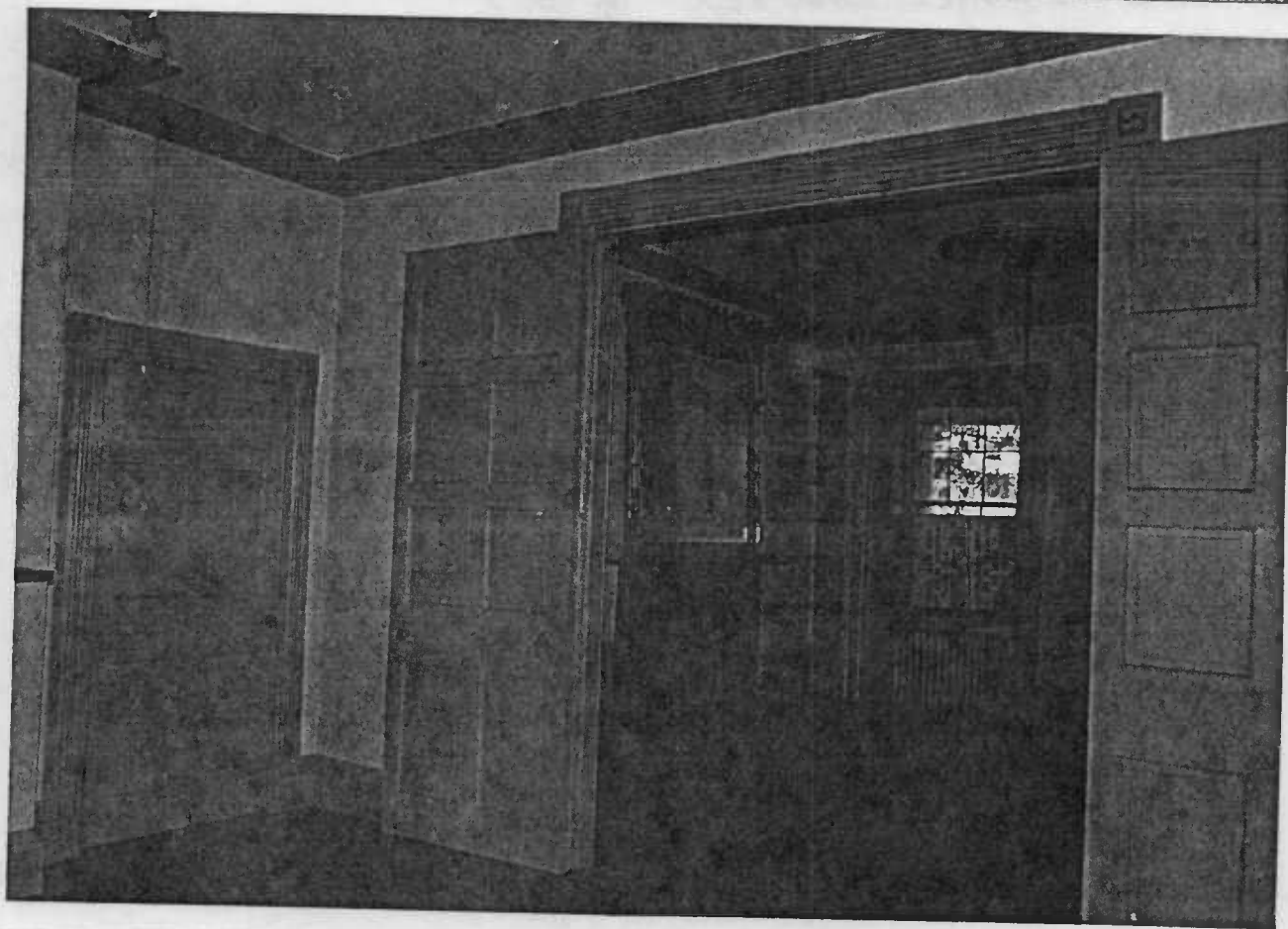
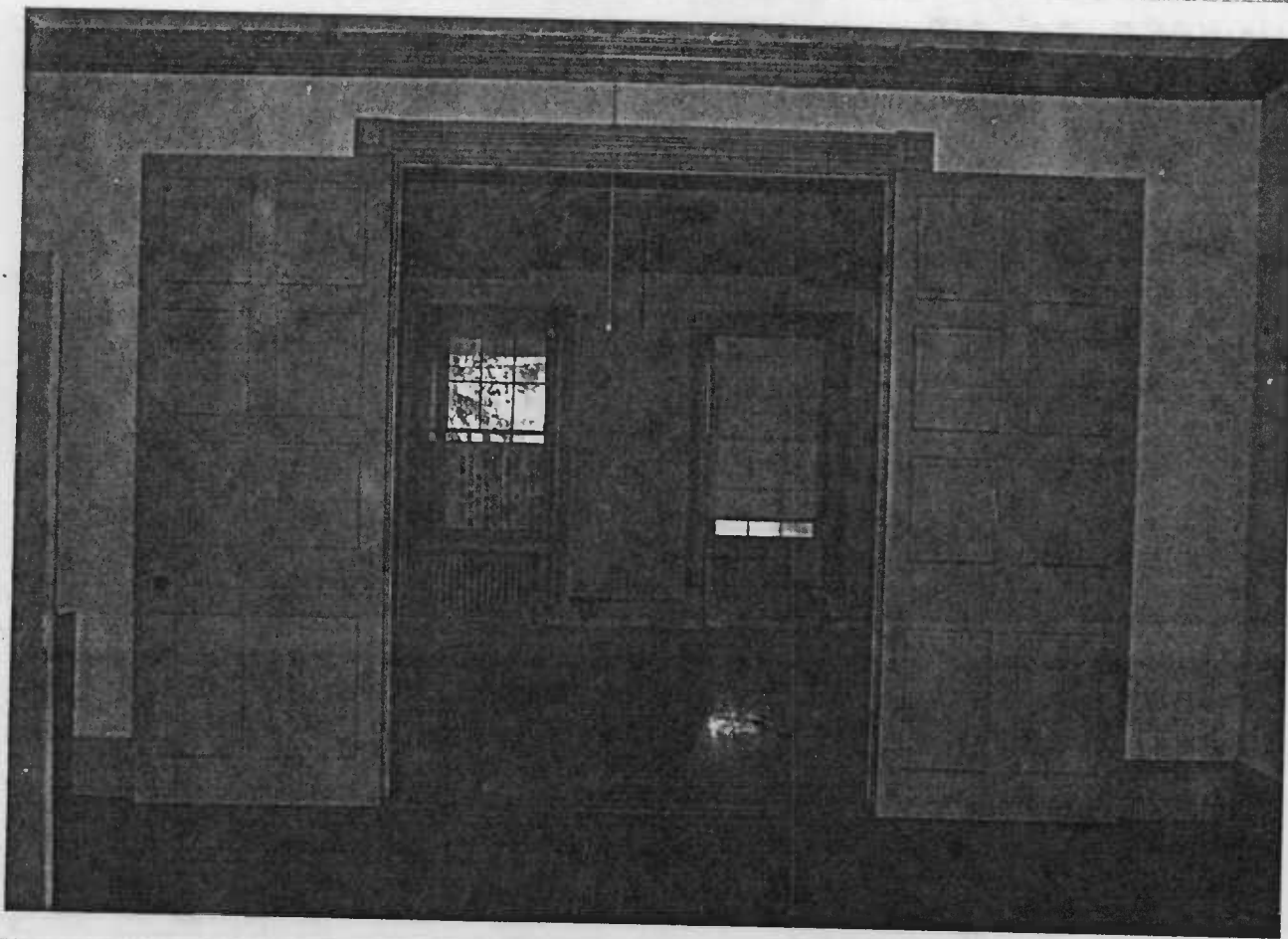


ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX H0-367  
HOWARD CO., MD  
PETER KURTZE 3/88  
NEG AT MD SHPO  
MAIN HOUSE, MANTEL, SOUTH PARLOR  
7/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX H0-367  
HOWARD CO., MD  
PETER KURTZE 3/88  
NEG AT MD SHPO  
TYPICAL WINDOW TRIM, BASEBOARD, ÷  
CORNICE, S. PARLOR  
8/19



HO-367



ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE: PARTITION BETWEEN N & S PARLORS,  
VIEW FROM N.

9/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD.

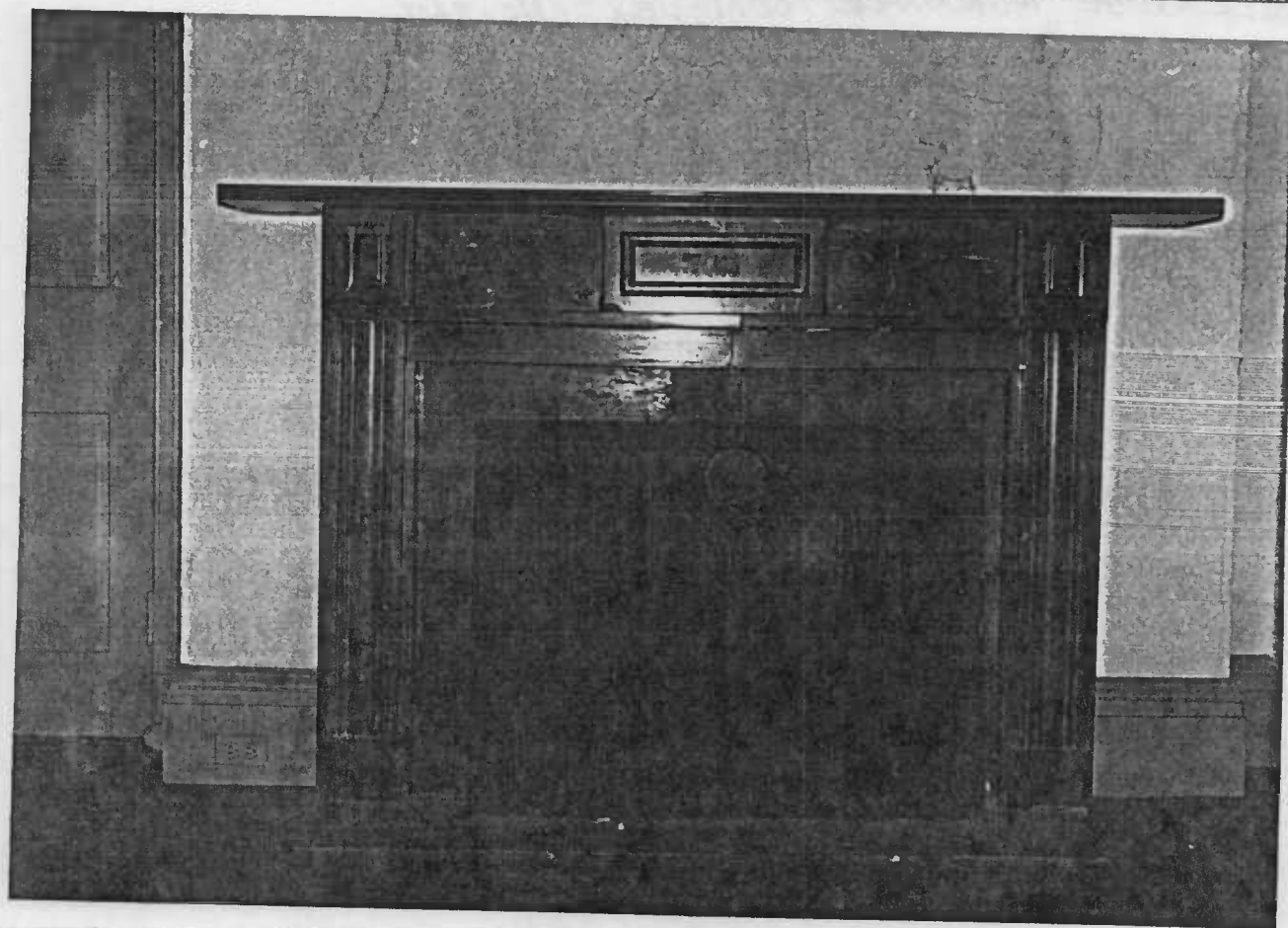
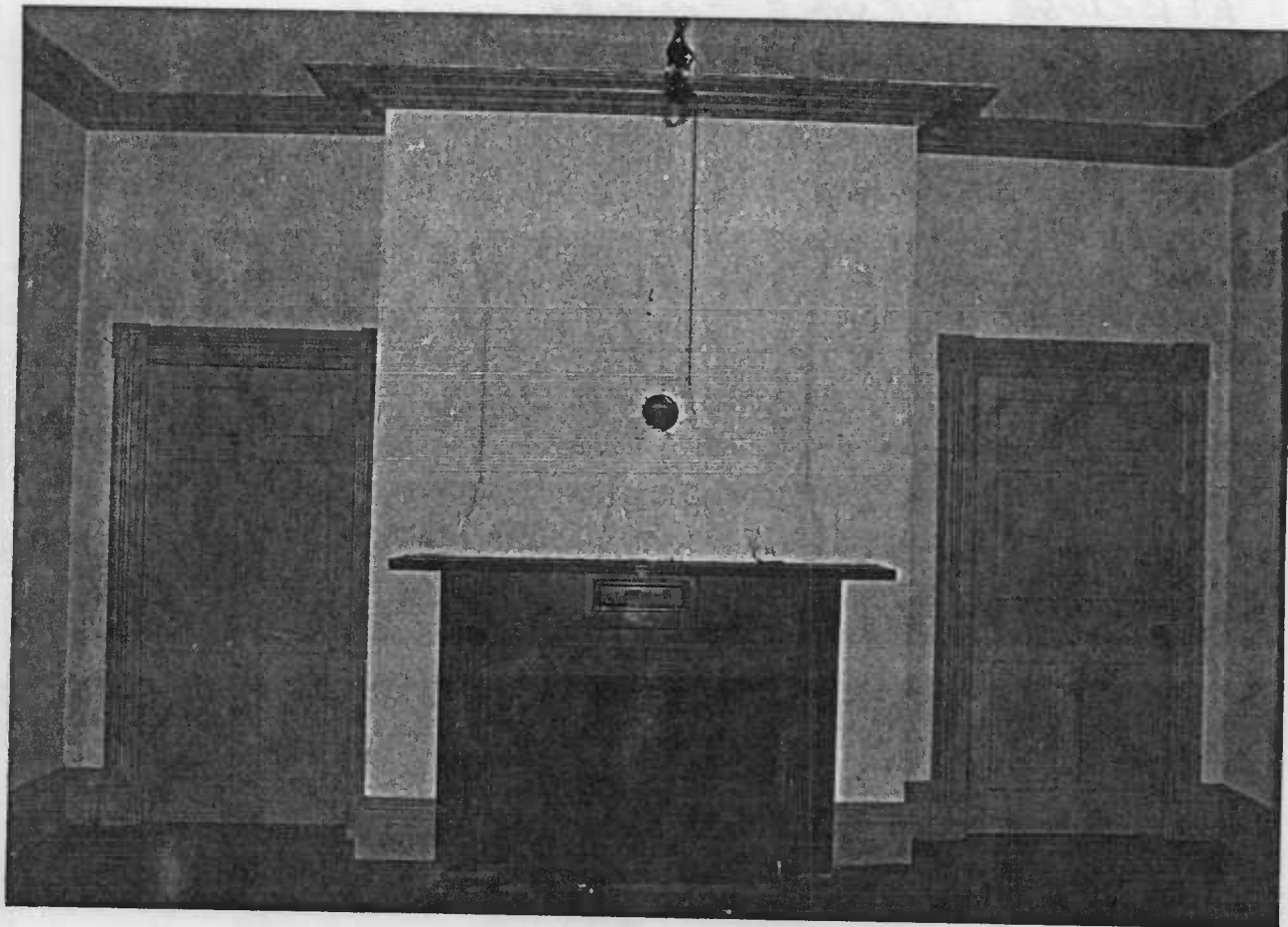
PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

N. PARLOR, FACING S.W.

10/19

HO-367





ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX, HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD.

PETER KURTZE, 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

N. PARLOR, FACING E.

11/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

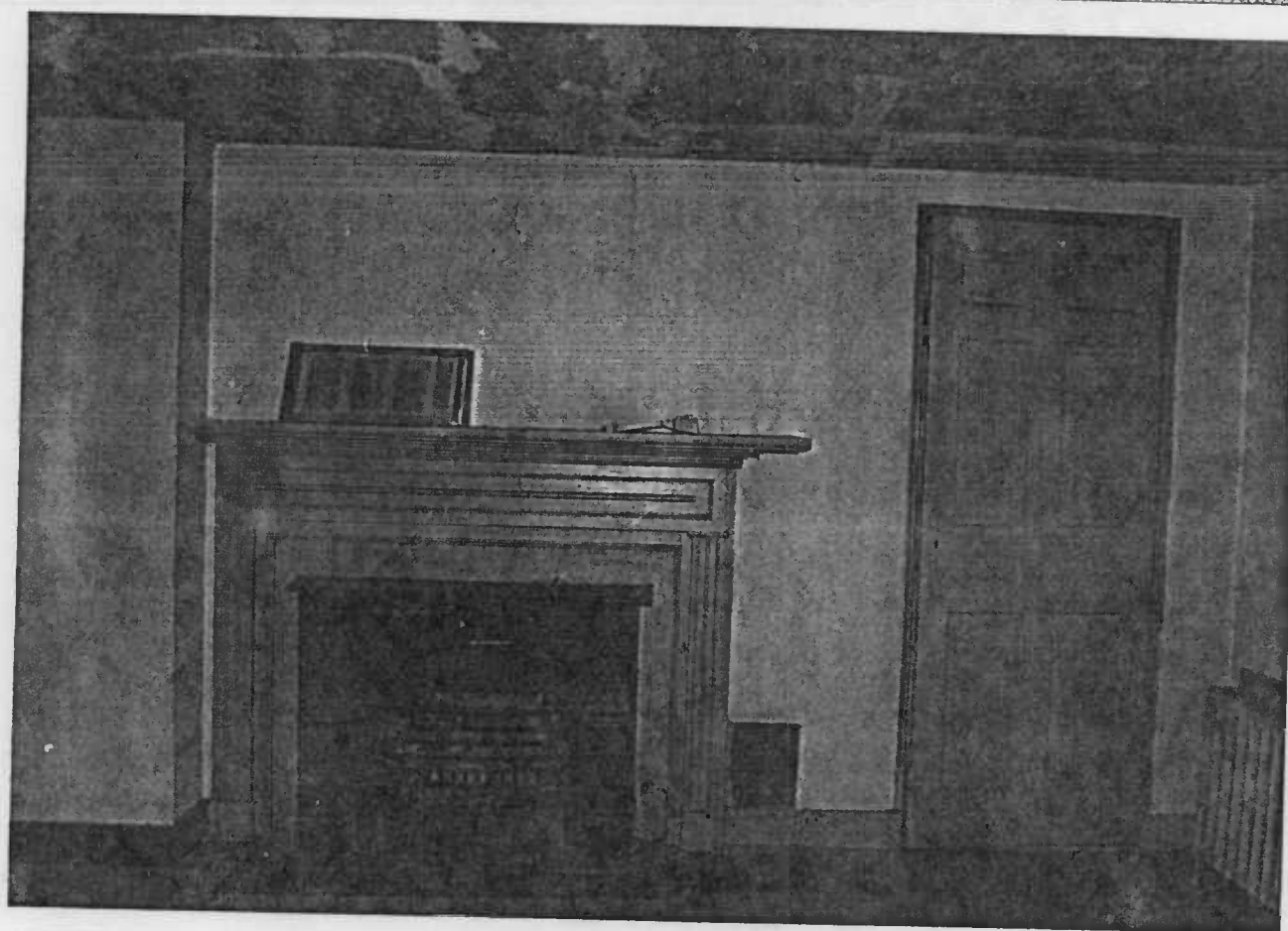
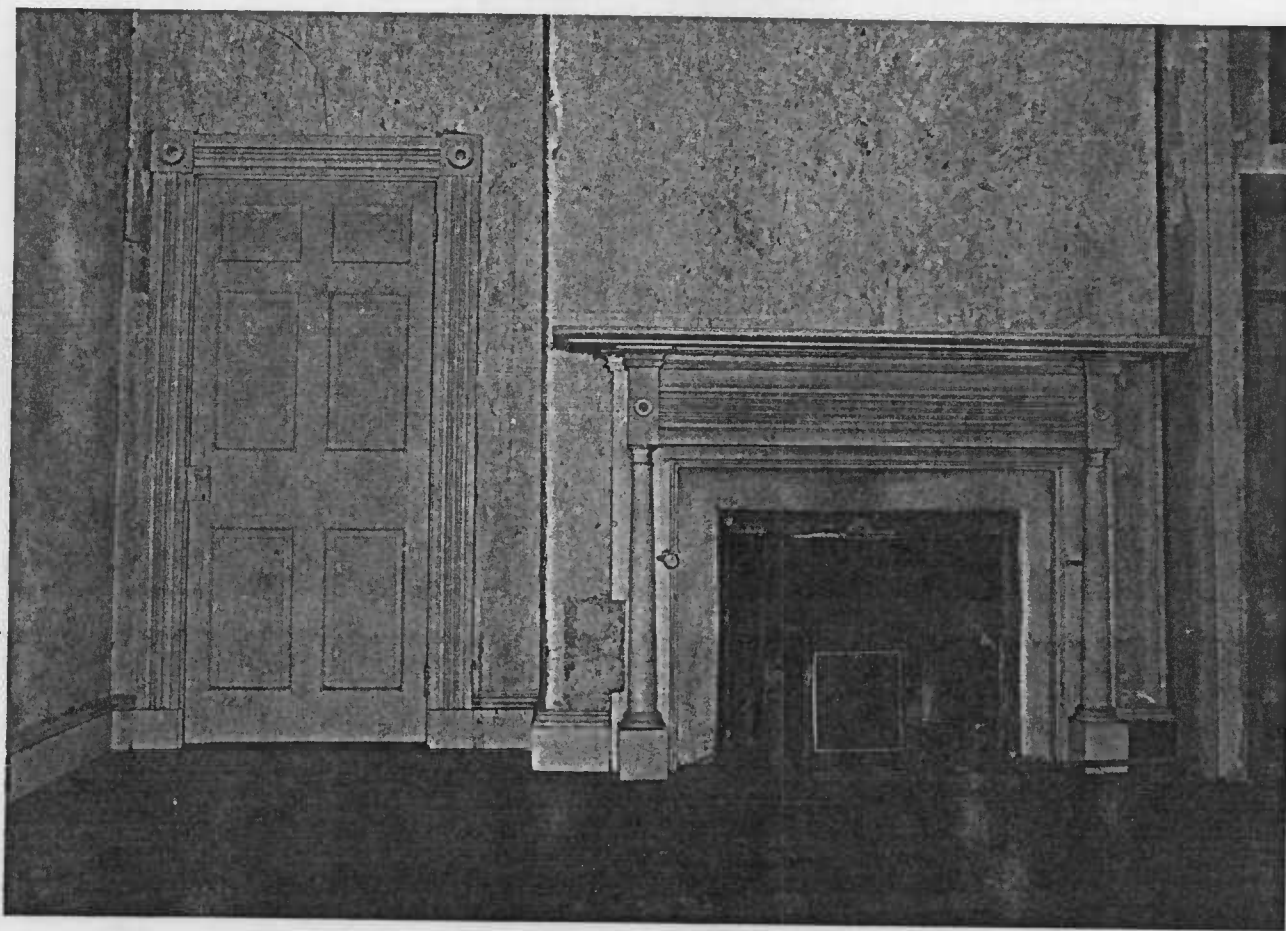
NEG AT MD SHPO

NORTH PARLOR, ~~THE~~ MANTEL DETAIL

12/19



HO-367



ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD.

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

2ND FL., ~~1111~~ S. ROOM, FACING E.

13/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

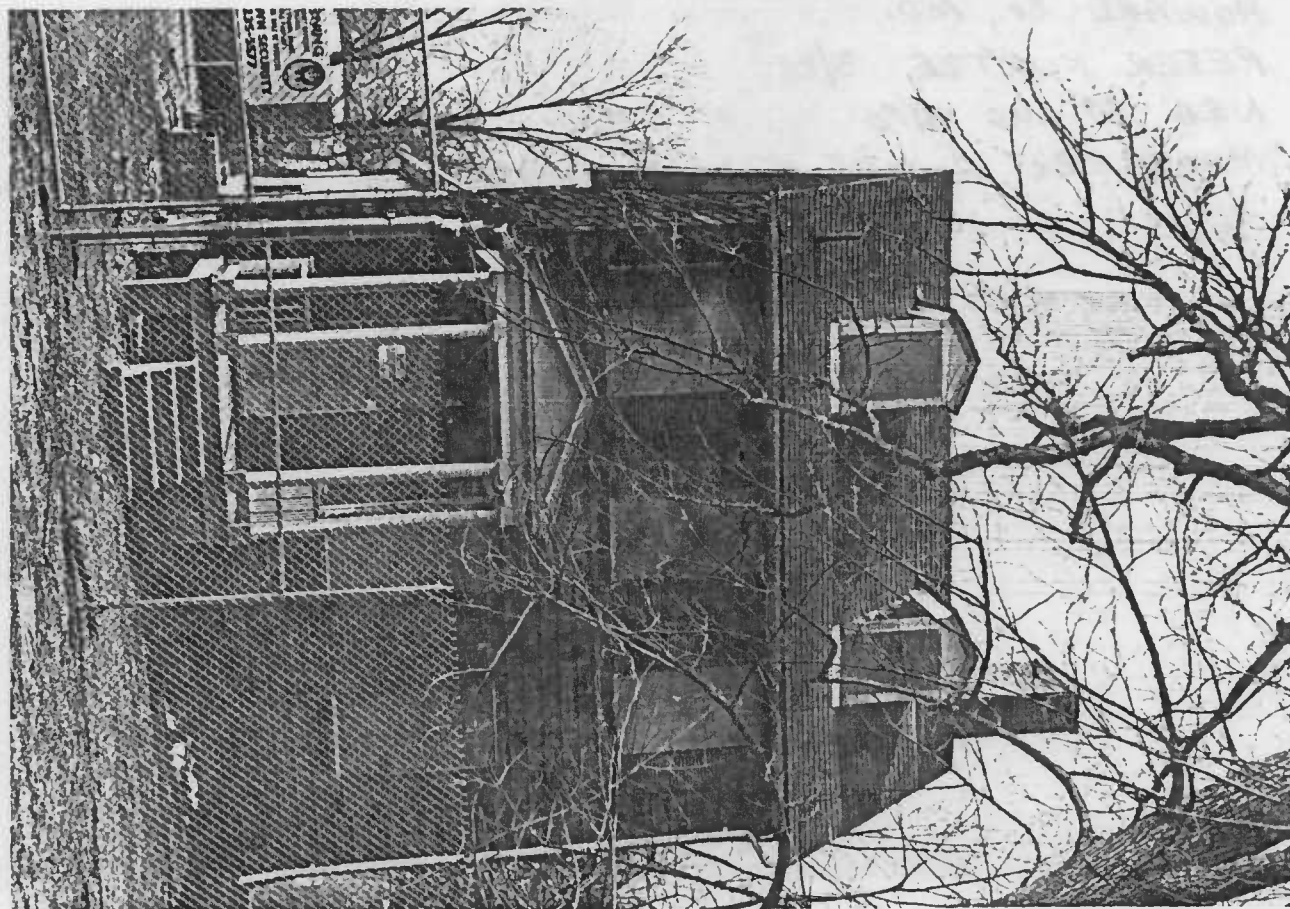
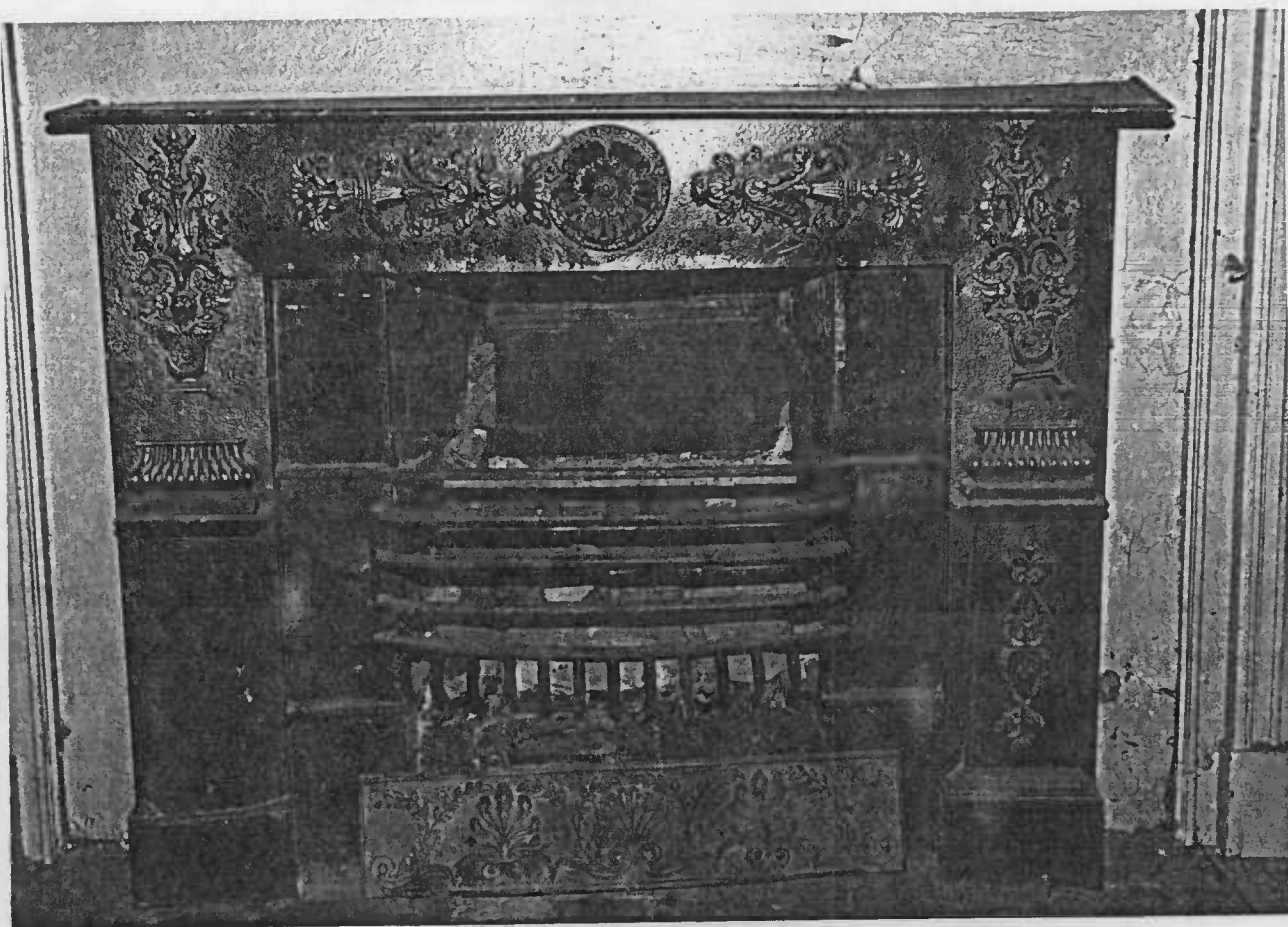
PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

NORTH WING, 2ND FLOOR, FACING N.

14/19

HO-367





ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

FIREPLACE INSERT, 2ND FLOOR, NORTH WING

15/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD.

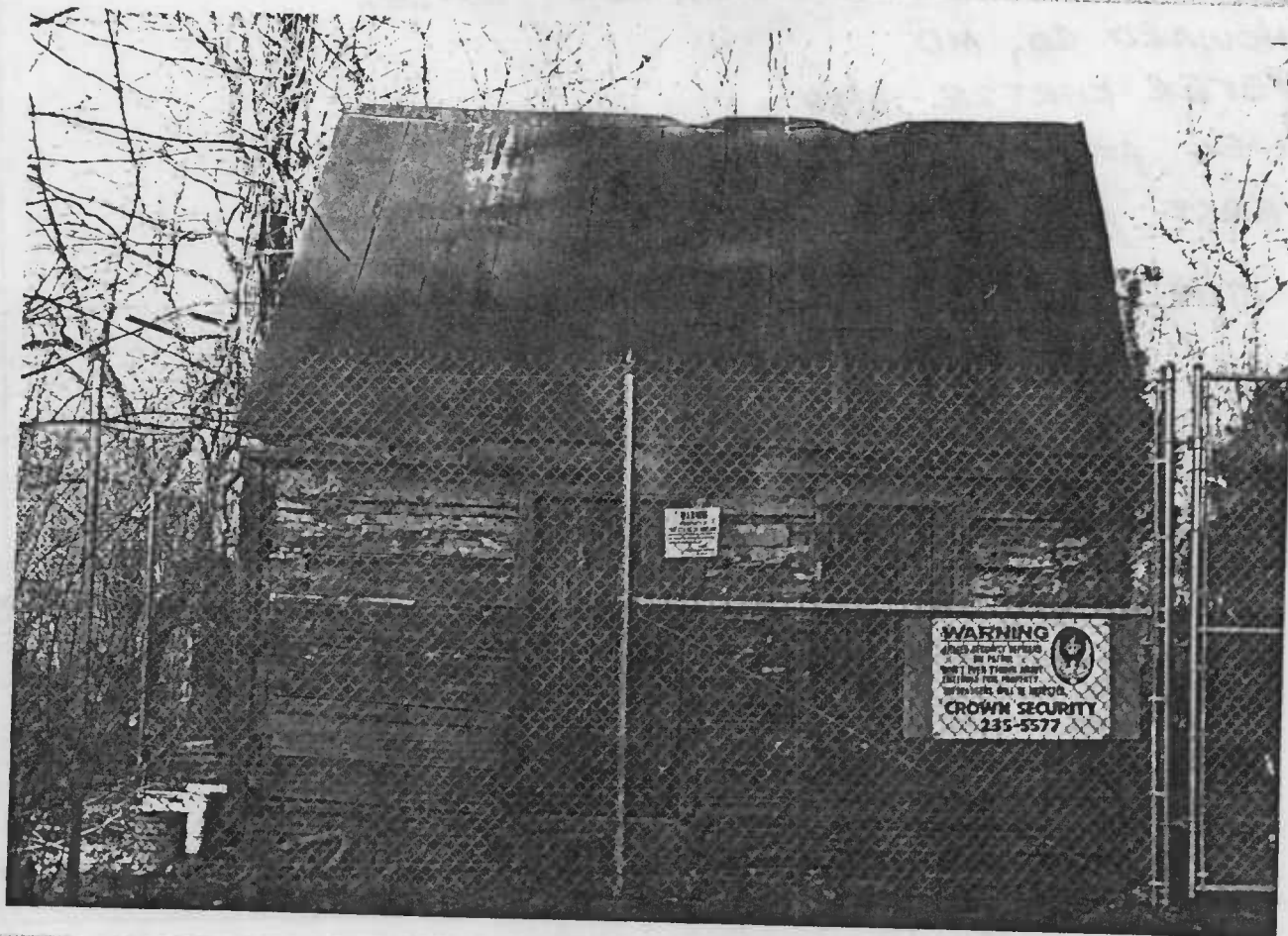
PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

"MANAGER'S HOUSE," 5730 FURNACE AVE, NORTH ELEVATION

16/19

HO-367



ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

EAST PLANK OUTBUILDING, VIEW FROM S.

17/19

ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX HO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

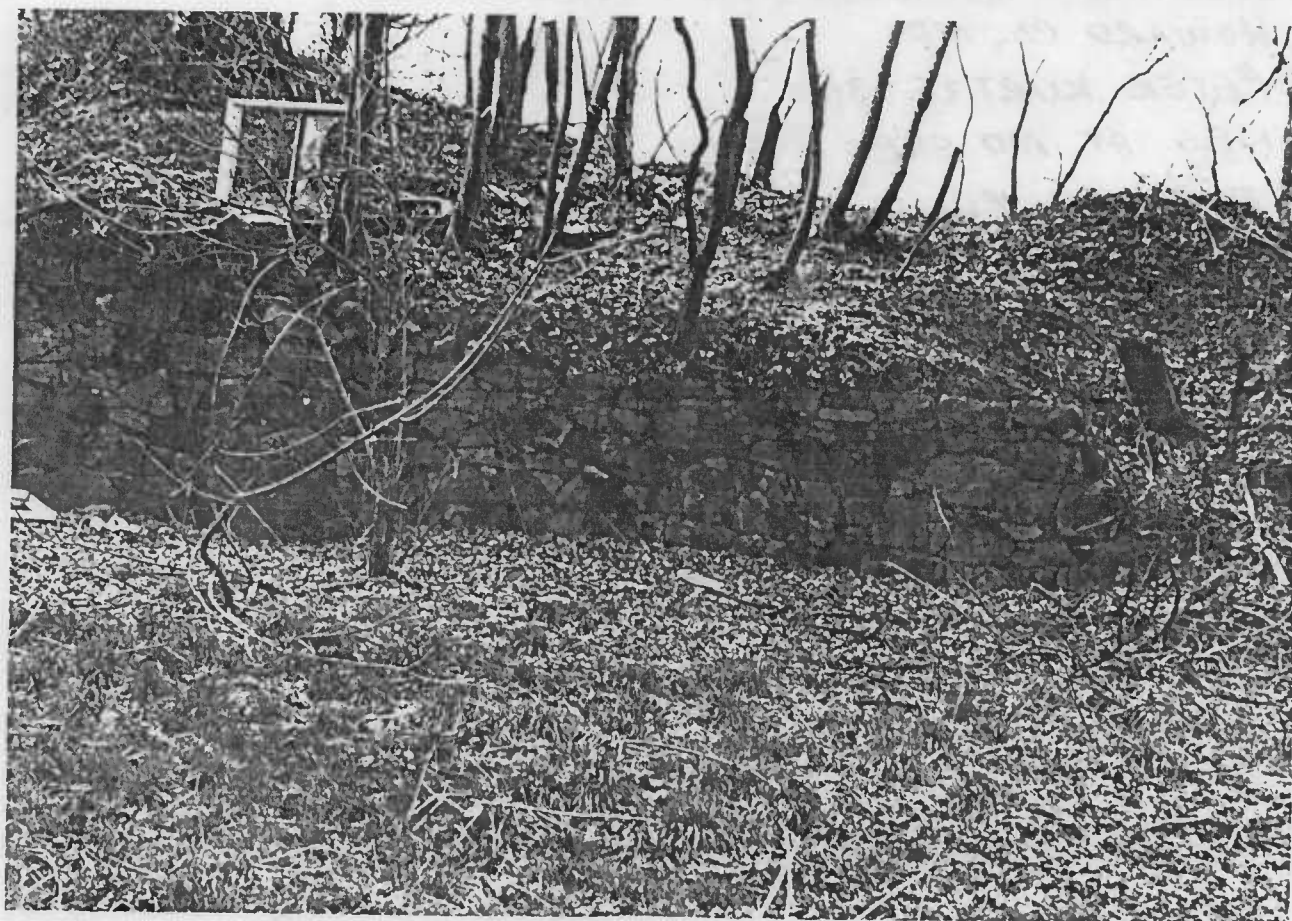
NEG AT MD SHPO

WEST PLANK OUTBUILDING, VIEW FROM S.E.

18/19



H0-367



ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX NO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

FURNACE RUINS

19/19



HO-367

ELKRIDGE FURNACE STORE HOUSE

circa 1755

Elkridge Landing

Private

Elkridge Furnace Store House dates back to the early 1700's when ships came up the Patapsco River to Elkridge Landing. The original tract of land on which this home stands, partially surveyed by Robert Hughes was later re-surveyed by James McCubbin in 1744 who built a brick house here later used as a tavern. Dr. James Walker re-surveyed McCubbin's tract and several others in 1755. He combined them into a 1730 acre property which he called Walkers Inheritance. Part of this tract was sold to Caleb Dorsey who built a furnace on it, the vestiges of which remain southeast of the house.

Looking at the complex from the southwest, three buildings emerge, well-defined and separate, though complementary in scale, material and proportion; an east wing, west wing and northwest wing which forms an L plan.

The oldest structure, the tavern, sits to the east, five bays wide, two bays deep and two stories high (laid in English garden wall bond) with a high pitched gable roof and brick chimneys inset into its east and west walls.

Located northwest of this structure lies a two and a half story brick building three bays wide, two bays deep with a central east and west rectangular entrance door, gabled roof running north-south and wide brick north chimney whose cast iron fire plate is inscribed "1833 Ellicott Elkridge Furnace". Nevertheless it is believed that this building is much older and ante dates the 1808 addition which lies on its south wall and on the west wall of the old tavern. This west wing is three bays wide and three bays deep with a gambrel roof and two central brick chimneys.

Features of the Federal style or Adamesque appear in the early 1800 west wing in its tripartite full arched window centered into the third story west wall of this wing, in the oval designs in the side lites of the south entrance and the interior plaster work of the entrance hall and first floor rooms which features delicate circular medallions. The same hallway is featured in the Baltimore Art Museum off Charles Street.

Porches are located on the south facades of the east and west wings and on the east and west facades of the northwest wing.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO-367  
Relay Quad  
District 1

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY      Magi No. 1403674311

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC      The Elkridge Furnace Store House

AND/OR COMMON  
Walker's Inheritance

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
5741-45 Furnace Avenue

CITY, TOWN  
Elkridge

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
6th

STATE  
Maryland

COUNTY  
Howard

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Mr. & Mrs. Irwin Lowe

Telephone #: (301) 796-3373

STREET & NUMBER  
5741-45 Furnace Avenue

CITY, TOWN  
Elkridge

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland    21227

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Tax Map 38, Block 4, page 615  
COURTHOUSE,      Hall of Records  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: 567  
Folio #: 205

STREET & NUMBER  
Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN  
Ellicott City

STATE  
Maryland

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE  
1978-1979

— FEDERAL    ☒ STATE    — COUNTY    — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS      Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN  
21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE  
Maryland

HO-367

The Elkridge Furnace Store House  
Elkridge Landing  
Private

Magi No. 1403674311  
Eighteenth and  
Nineteenth centuries

The Elkridge Furnace Store House is composed of three separate and distinct buildings connected to one another, which face south on the north side of Furnace Road, just west of its intersection with Race Road, which was the old mill race for the old Elkridge Furnace. Furnace Road was originally called Elkridge Landing Road and went all the way to Annapolis, vestiges of which can still be seen.

The oldest part of the building is believed to be the store and tavern section of the house, at the east end of the building. This section is believed to date from the second half of the eighteenth century.

The east wing is a five bay wide, two bay deep, two story high, high pitched, shingled, gabled roof (running east-west), brick (laid in English garden wall brick bond) house, resting on a brick foundation, with wide brick chimneys inset into its east and west walls. Fenestration for the house is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled. Windows are double-hung, with pegged sashes, holding six-over-six lights. They are surmounted by stretcher brick, flat arched lintels, underlined by flat wooden sills and decorated on the south facade by wooden shutters.

Its rectangular, central entrance door on the south facade is surmounted by a four light transom and covered by a three bay wide, hipped roof, open porch, supported by four doric columns.

The building is some 18' by 24' in dimensions. In the cellar an 8" by 8", hand hewn, summer beam (running east-west) holds the hand hewn floor joists (running north-south). These joists are of interest for they

were evidently used lumber from the ships which came into Elkridge and for some reason or other were dismantled and some of their seasoned lumber used for the construction of this building. The building features a central hall plan in which the first, second and third floor partition walls do not rest on the large summer beam, but on the large joists, made from old ships seasoned lumber, which are often pegged.

Originally the first floor is believed to have been almost totally one large room used as a store. There is a hatch on the floor approximately 24 inches square for raising material out of the basement to the first floor. The central staircase is set back in the center of the hall, featuring square balusters and rounded knewel posts, running from the first to the third floor.

The interior retains all of its original window and door frames, which feature two deeply cut flutes on their lintels and pilasters, joined at the corners by squares decorated by two deeply cut circles.

Northwest of this excellently preserved and maintained east wing tavern and store section of the house is placed the large kitchen for the house. It is a three bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English garden wall brick bond) building, resting on a brick foundation. This section is believed to be as old as the tavern and store section, but was altered at one time by raising the first floor of the building. This can be seen in the cellar of this section of the building, where narrow pieces of wood support the ceiling joists. These joists are sawn by a water-powered saw and adzed.

The entire floor and support system, however, may have been altered

and replaced at the time the structure was raised. The brick between the foundation and exterior walls are differently placed. The north wall of this cellar also holds three very wide, brick, arch supports for the large, first floor, cooking fireplace centered on this wall. This fireplace holds a cast iron fire plate inscribed "1833 - Ellicott Elkridge Furnace". This section, however, is believed to be older than this date. A batten wood cellar door is centered into the south wall of this section, featuring a large, wooden lock. This door at one time led to the outdoors, but now enters into the latest section of the building, circa 1810.

The west wing, believed to date circa 1810, is a three bay wide, three bay deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running east-west, with jerkin roofed terminations) brick (laid in English garden wall brick bond) building, resting on a brick foundation, with two tall, wide, brick, interior chimneys placed in the interior brick bearing wall, which runs from the cellar to the attic, featuring a jerkin roofed, central, intersecting dormer window. This section fills the southwest corner created by the store and tavern section and the kitchen wing, forming a large three part plan.

This building has been known by local residents in the Elkridge area as one of its oldest existing buildings.

Around the house and its site, which backs up to the Patapsco River, where ships once sailed to load colonial tobacco, many old artifacts have been found. Among these artifacts are bits and pieces of old bottles of rum or liquor, as well as overly sized, seventeenth century brick.

Up to the 1930's the wharfs along the Patapsco could still be seen and passages led from the house to these wharfs. Floods have wiped these

HO-367

The Elkridge Furnace Store House  
Elkridge Landing  
Private

Eighteenth and  
Nineteenth centuries  
Page 4 of 4

away, leaving only this large brick building complex to tell the story of another age, when the shallow, narrow Patapsco River was wide enough and deep enough to support English sailing ships up to Elkridge Landing.

## 7 DESCRIPTION

HO-367  
Relay Quad  
District 1

### CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Elkridge Furnace Store House is composed of three separate and distinct buildings connected to one another, which face south on the north side of Furnace Road, just west of its intersection with Race Road, which was the old mill race for the old Elkridge Furnace. Furnace Road was originally called Elkridge Landing Road and went all the way to Annapolis, vestiges of which can still be seen.

The oldest part of the building is believed to be the store and tavern section of the house, at the east end of the building. This section is believed to date from the second half of the eighteenth century.

#### THE 18TH CENTURY EAST WING

The east wing is a five bay wide, two bay deep, two story high, high pitched, shingled, gabled roof (running east-west), brick (laid in English garden wall brick bond) house, resting on a brick foundation, with wide brick chimneys inset into its east and west walls. Fenestration for the house is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled. Windows are double-hung, with pegged sashes, holding six-over-six lights. They are surmounted by stretcher brick, flat arched lintels, underlined by flat wooden sills and decorated on the south facade by wooden shutters.

Its rectangular, central entrance door on the south facade is surmounted by a four light transom and covered by a three bay wide, hipped roof, open porch, supported by four doric columns.

The building is some 18' by 24' in dimensions. In the cellar an 8" by 8", hand hewn, summer beam (running east-west) holds the hand hewn floor joists (running north-south). These joists are of interest for they

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

were evidently used lumber from the ships which came into Elkridge and for some reason or other were dismantled and some of their seasoned lumber used for the construction of this building. The building features a central hall plan in which the first, second and third floor partition walls do not rest on the large summer beam, but on the large joists, made from old ships seasoned lumber, which are often pegged.

Originally the first floor is believed to have been almost totally one large room used as a store. The central staircase is set back in the center of the hall, featuring square balusters and rounded knewel posts, running from the first to third floor.

The interior retains all of its original window and door frames, which feature two deeply cut flutes on their lintels and pilasters, joined at the corners by squares decorated by two deeply cut circles. Such frames have been found in a house, dating from 1750 in Croom, Maryland, off Route 301.

The entrance doors of the four bedrooms on the second floor feature the door numbers 5, 6, 7 and 8. Two very large rooms are also found in the attic. The two mantelpieces on the first floor, as well as the second floor northeast room mantelpiece have been removed to expose the original, brick construction of the chimney. Interestingly, the second floor mantelpiece holds its original cooking crane. This room is also larger, two thirds the depth of the house, lighted by two north windows and one east window.

The northwest, second floor chamber, of similar dimension, holds a very fine original mantelpiece, which features an architrave held by flanking full doric columns. A closet door, once an entrance into the later 1810 section of the complex, lies north of the mantelpiece and the one, second floor, west window rests on the other side, or south of the mantelpiece. This room is also lighted by two north windows, similar to those



already described. A smaller room, one third the depth of the house, located in the southwest corner of the second floor, holding the number five, is lighted by two south windows. Another second floor room, on the southeast corner of the building is of similar dimensions and is also lighted by two south windows.

The staircase and its fine banister runs all the way to the third floor, which features a large room on the east and west side of the central hall, lighted by an east and west attic window, respectively.

Wide random width floor boards are found throughout the house on the first, second and attic floors. The cellar features no partitions and has basically a dirt floor, with a small section bricked in front of the steps of the central flight of stairs.

#### THE 18TH CENTURY KITCHEN WING - REBUILT CIRCA 1833

Northwest of this excellently preserved and maintained, east wing, tavern and store section of the house is placed the large kitchen for the house. It is a three bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English garden wall brick bond) building, resting on a brick foundation. This section is believed to be as old as the tavern and store section, but was altered at one time by raising the first floor of the building. This can be seen in the cellar of this section of the building, where narrow pieces of wood support the ceiling joists. These joists are sawn by a water powered saw and adzed.

The entire floor and support system, however, may have been altered and replaced at the time the structure was raised. The brick between the foundation and exterior walls are differently placed. The north wall of this cellar also holds three very wide, brick, arch supports for the large,

first floor, cooking fireplace centered on this wall. This fireplace holds a cast iron fire plate inscribed "1833 - Ellicott Elkridge Furnace". This section, however, is believed to be older than this date. A batten wood cellar door is centered into the south wall of this section, featuring a large, wooden stock lock. This door once led to the outdoors, but now enters into the latest section of the building, circa 1810.

A large kitchen is located above the dirt cellar and its raised ceiling. This large kitchen features a wide, cooking fireplace with the 1833 fire plate, previously mentioned. It is lighted by east and west windows.

#### The West Elevation

The west elevation of this north wing has a shed roofed, open porch, supported by two square, wooden posts, decorated with scrolled brackets, which leads to the kitchen door. Four wide stone steps lead to the porch landing.

Single, first floor windows, similar to those described, flank either side of the door. Three similar, second floor windows lie above. Two gabled roof, dormer windows, holding rectangular, double-hung windows, with six-over-six lights are inset into its gabled roof, which runs north-south.

#### The East Elevation

The gable roof slopes downward on the east elevation, creating a shed roof for the two story high, open porch, which runs along the entire east wall of the kitchen section. Three doric wooden columns support the first floor roof, while three narrower wooden posts support the second floor roof, connected to one another by a low balustrade. The brick foundation

for this porch has been restored by the present owners. Its second floor ceiling is a plaster one, leading to a belief that this is the original porch for the house. A gabled roof dormer is inset into the north side of this wall, holding a six-over-six light window.

#### The North Elevation

A wide brick chimney on the north wall completes the building profile for this section of the house. Fenestration for this kitchen wing is entirely rectangular and double-hung, holding six-over-six lights, surmounted by stretcher brick, flat arched lintels on the first floor.

#### Interior

The interior features an enclosed staircase, running east-west, along its south wall, from first floor to attic. A large master bedroom is placed above the kitchen, lighted by two east and west windows. It features wide, random width floors and a central, wooden fireplace, whose rectangular paneled architrave is held by similarly decorated pilasters.

A large attic room is lighted by an east and west dormer window and features a batten wood, entrance door with an old iron latch. Mr. Lowe, who had made a study of such latches, recognizes it as nineteenth century hardware.

#### The West Wing

The west wing, believed to date circa 1810, is a three bay wide, three bay deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running east-west, with jerkin roofed terminations) brick (laid in English garden wall brick bond) building, resting on a brick foundation, with two tall,

wide, brick, interior chimneys placed in the interior brick bearing wall, which runs from the cellar to the attic, featuring a jerkin roofed, central, intersecting dormer window. This section fills the southwest corner created by the store and tavern section and the kitchen wing, forming a large three part plan.

The South Elevation of 1810 Section

This section faces south on the north side of Furnace Road. It is constructed along the north half of the store and tavern sections' west wall, extending northward to meet the south wall of the old kitchen. It forms, on its south facade, a recessed area, which is now covered by a one story high, shed roofed, open porch, lying flush with the south wall of the store and tavern section, and supported by four Doric columns.

The main double entrance door for this section is located in the east bay of this wall. It features five rectangular, proportionally scaled, wooden panels on each side, flanked by tall, leaden paned, side lights, decorated with a central oval. This south wall is laid in Flemish bond brick, with stretcher brick, flat arched lintels decorating the two first floor, double-hung windows, which hold six-over-six lights. Three proportionally scaled, vertically aligned, windows, similar to those described, are placed in the second floor of this wall with the central intersecting, jerkin roofed, gable inset into the roofline.

The East Elevation of the 1810 Section

This wall holds a first and second floor, vertically aligned, open bible and cross paneled, rectangular entrance door, south of the center line, with a centrally located, second floor rectangular window, similar to those described. Two six-over-three light, rectangular, attic windows

are centered into the "A" of the gable at this elevation. No porch or staircase leads from the second floor entrance door, located on this wall. Hidden from an exterior view, a cellar and first floor entrance can be found on the south side of this wall, leading into the original store and tavern section.

#### The North Elevation of the 1810 Section

The north elevation of this section of the house is mainly the south wall of the kitchen wing. The east bay, however, extends from this wall and holds a first and second floor, rectangular, paneled entrance door on to the covered, two story high porch, which runs along the east wall of the kitchen wing. A gabled roof dormer window is centered into the roofline at this elevation.

#### The West Elevation

The west elevation of this section of the house holds three first and second floor windows, similar to those described, underlined by cellar windows, featuring iron bars. A large arched, tripartite attic fanlight is centered into this wall. Two structural iron supports, which hold two iron supporting beams, connecting the east and west walls, are located between the first and second and second and third floors. Shutter hooks are also found on this wall.

#### Interior Hall of 1810 Section

The interior of this elegant house features a wide, east bay hall, which takes up one third of this section of the house, and runs north-south. It features wide, random width floors and three plaster circles, decorating its ceiling. The middle circle is larger and more elaborate from which a large chandelier hangs.

The south wall of the hall holds the main entrance door, which furnishes the only natural light for this area. The south side of its east wall holds a door into the east wing or store and tavern section of the building. Up the north side of the east wall runs a spiral staircase, from first to third floor. Its balustrade is held by round, tapered, curly maple balusters and fine, molded, knewel posts.

The west side of the north wall of the hall holds a double shuttered, rectangular doorway, while the west wall holds two centrally located, rectangular, open bible and cross paneled entrance doors. The door frames are composed of fluted pilasters and lintels, joined by square corners, into which plaster rosettes are placed. The woodwork for the first and second floor is entirely similar, although the square blocks, which join the pilasters and lintels, do not feature rosettes, but a simple circle with a deep center, believed to once have held similar rosettes.

#### The Living Room of the 1810 Section

The door to the south, on the west wall of the hall, enters the large living room, which takes up half of two thirds of this large building's floor area. It is lighted by two tall, south windows and one west window, all of which are decorated with window frames, similar to the door frames, already described in the hall. A black marble fireplace is centered on its east wall, featuring a deep architrave with rectangular molding, flanked by flat pilasters and surmounted by a marble mantleshef. A wood stove is set into its rectangular opening.

The north wall of the living room holds a very wide double entrance, which takes up a major part of the wall. The door panels of the very large double door are similar to the main entrance to the hall. Door



frames, similar to those described, decorate this magnificent door, which features silver door knobs. This wide opening serves as an entry into the dining room, which is of equal dimension to the living room and whose east wall features a black marble mantelpiece, similar to that in the living room. This mantelpiece is flanked by entry doors, on the south, into the main hall, and on the north, into a small passage. The west wall holds two tall windows, while the north wall holds an entrance door, on the west, into the kitchen wing.

Both the living and dining rooms feature wide, random width floors. The ceiling of these rooms are decorated with large central, molded, plaster circles, from which hang chandeliers. Around the perimeter of these ceilings runs a deep plaster, crown molding, also found in the hall.

The woodwork for the upstairs rooms, follow the same pattern begun downstairs, as already mentioned. Two large bedrooms are located over the living and dining rooms and are similarly lighted and decorated. The mantelpieces here are of wood, rather than marble, featuring deeply cut crown molding beneath the simple mantleshelves, with full doric columns, holding their architraves. Fire plates are inscribed, "Ellicotts Elkridge Furnace".

This entire section of the house retains its original woodwork, random width floors, plaster ceiling decorations and fine mantelpieces.

A simple gabled roof finished log house lies west of the home. Its corners are dove tailed and the lumber used in it may be either from a ship or used previously in a wad and dobbble construction. It has a south rectangular entrance with a rectangular window lying in the east bay. It dates from 1810-1820 or earlier.

Another simple, gabled roofed, wooden structure lies west of this, and north of it, the foundation of the old spring house.

The original well is located south of these two buildings.

Around the house and its site, which backs up to the Patapsco River, where ships once sailed to load colonial tobacco, many old artifacts have been found. Among these artifacts are bits and pieces of old bottles of rum or liquor, as well as overly sized, seventeenth century brick, and a 1702 Irish Half Pence found near the back door.

Up to the 1930's the wharfs along the Patapsco could still be seen and passages led from the house to these wharfs. Floods have wiped these away, leaving only this large brick building complex to tell the story of another age, when the shallow, narrow Patapsco River was wide enough and deep enough to support English sailing ships up to Elkridge Landing.

**B SIGNIFICANCE**

HO-367

Relay Quad

Dist 1

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	Local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

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**SPECIFIC DATES****BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Elkridge Furnace Store House, at Elkridge Landing, Howard County, Maryland is commercially<sup>1</sup> and industrially<sup>2</sup> significant through its eighteenth century connection to the Elkridge Furnace, as an office, store and tavern. Constructed by Caleb Dorsey and others on the west bank of the Patapsco River at Elkridge Landing. Its site has revealed archeologically significant data<sup>3</sup>; Hessian brass breast plates and shoe-buckles from the Revolutionary War, as well as eighteenth century broken glass, wine bottles and cast water pipe. Architecturally,<sup>4</sup> the building complex is a fine example of eighteenth and nineteenth century interconnecting buildings, complementary in scale, material and proportion, constructed in an "L" plan. Its earliest section features used ships' lumber for floor joists, while its west wing is constructed in the Federal style, featuring fine interior and exterior stylistic detail.

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**

1. Historically, the original tract of land on which The Elkridge Furnace Store was constructed was partially surveyed by a Robert Hughes and later resurveyed by James McCubbin in 1744. It is he, who is believed to have built a brick house, the east wing, which later became a store and tavern.

McCubbin's tract, as well as several others, was re-surveyed by Dr. James Walker in 1755, who combined them into a 1730 acre property, called "Walker's Inheritance."

Mr. Irwin Lowe, present owner of the property has done extensive research on the property, writing an article on the house in ELK RIDGE: A BICENTENNIAL JOURNAL, Published in 1976. In it he gives a history of the property, part of which follows:

Dr. Walker sold part of the property to Caleb Dorsey, who built a furnace on it. Mr. Dorsey also rebuilt a house which had burnt down on the river banks.

In 1768, a Dr. Howard rebuilt the furnace to a tilting furnace and forge .....

The property changed hands many times at this point .....

Nehemiah M. Rowles had leased the Furnace to John and Andrew Ellicott, Jr., who rebuilt it to a much larger facility. They also built a water-powered forge at Avalone to use. The installation had an annual capacity of 16,000 tons of pig iron, according to records from 1826.

In 1836, John and Andrew Ellicott, jr. purchased the property from Nehemiah M. Rowles, and the furnace was then operated by Jonathon Ellicott and Sons until 1854.

Henry William Ellicott sold the property to Robert Howard who, in 1858, sold it to Great Falls Iron Company for \$71,000.

The company worked the furnace, stove, and manager's house until the great flood of 1868 when the furnace was destroyed by the raging river.

The property was sold to Robert H. Brown in 1887. He, in turn, sold it to Joseph Toomey, Jr., in 1904. The property remained in the Toomey family until it was bought by its present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Lowe, in 1971.

Commercially the east wing is believed to have been operated as a tavern and store from the mid eighteenth century for travelers coming from both land and the Patapsco River.

The State's colonial congress is said to have met at least once in McCubbin's Tavern and, the Ellicott brothers are said to have stayed in McCubbin's Tavern in the early 1780s

when they landed their equipment for the construction of Ellicott City's Grain Mill. The deed of 1858, conveyed a "stack of good wares and merchandise in the store of the said Howard at Elkridge Landing".

Great Falls operated the store until the great flood of 1868 and later sold it in 1887 to Robert H. Brown.

2. Industrially, the property has been important as an auxiliary building, connected to the Elkridge Furnace, constructed by Caleb Dorsey and others in the eighteenth century, and notable for making pig iron for guns during the Revolutionary War.

By 1858, the property was operated by a Robert Howard, who sold it to the Great Falls Iron Company in that year. The deed conveyed "all personal property of Robert Howard ... horses, mules, oxen, wagons and carts, hay straw, grain, feed, manure and farming utensils, furnace tools, fixtures and machinery, engine and boilers, baskets and barrows with materials for the manufacture of iron ore, coal, wood, shells, fire brick, old iron, iron pipe, patterns, flasks, etc."

The forge was operated until 1868, when the Great Flood of that year swept the waters of the Patapsco over this area, destroying the furnace.

In June 1895, the Baltimore American newspaper contained an article about three ancient iron pigs - cast iron and weighing 100 pounds, which were stamped "Elkridge 1755", "Elkridge 1769" and Precipo" found in a junk yard.

3. Archeologically, the site has revealed vestiges of the early days, when sailing ships docked at wharfs, located north of the

present building. According to Mr. Lowe broken, black glass, wine bottles, and cast water pipe from 1740 to 1800, have been found on the site, similar to those found at Williamsburg, Virginia. Large, oversize, eighteenth century, bricks, including one used as a keystone, have also been found on the property. Similar bricks are found in the exposed second floor brick fireplace in the east wing. Among other artifacts found, have been Hessian brass breast plates and shoebuckles from the Revolutionary War.

4. Architecturally, the three interconnecting, brick houses form an "L" plan. Although separate and distinct, the east and west wings are similar in size and scale. The kitchen wing forms the "L" and although smaller in scale, it is similarly constructed, of brick, three bays in width. Together the complex holds five exterior brick chimneys and twelve (12) mantle pieces. That in the old kitchen or north wing has a cast iron fire-back which is inscribed, "1833 Ellicott Elkridge Furnace". Five other fireplaces have inscriptions, "Ellicott Elkridge Furnace" cast on them.

The east wing, believed to be the earliest section, features hand hewn, used ships lumber for the joists which hold the first floor. See photograph No. 2. Pegs and holes for pegs are seen in these supporting beams, each individual in character and believed to have come from old sailing ships, which once docked at Elkridge Landing, north of the house.

The interior of all three sections features original woodwork, interior doors, pegged window and door frames and wide random width

— floors.

—

The stylistic detail of the west wing, constructed sometime in the first half of the nineteenth century, is indicative of the Federal or Adamesque Style of that period. It features a tripartite, full arched window centered into the third story, west wall of this wing, as well as oval designs in the side lights of the south entrance for the main hall. These patterns are continued in the interior plaster medallions of the first floor entrance hall and its public rooms.

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## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Lowe, Irwin. "The Furnace: Tavern, Iron Works, Private Home". Elkridge A Bicentennial Journal. (June 1976), pp. 20-21.
- McGrain, John W. "Defense Efforts at Dorsey's Forge". History Trails. Vol 1, No. C4, (Summer 1974), pp. 1, 14-15.
- Warfield, J. D. Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland. Baltimore, 1972.
- Private papers of Mr. & Mrs. Irwin Lowe, owners of "The Furnace".
- Consultation with Mr. Stephen Lintner, Archeologist and member of the Howard County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust (465-9086).

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.2 Acres

The entire acreage of 2.2 acres on which the Elkridge Furnace Store House stands should be nominated with the building, which was once a tavern and store, the commercial focal point of a large industrial, eighteenth century enterprise known as the Elkridge Furnace.

The entire property is highly significant historically in the field of commerce and industry and was once a part of a much larger parcel of land which incorporated a mill race, furnace and several auxiliary buildings, on acres of land along the Patapsco River.

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 567 Folio 205

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	Maryland	COUNTY	Howard
STATE		COUNTY	

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3430 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

HO-367 - - ELKRIDGE FURNACE STORE HOUSE  
 Prepared by Cleora B. Thompson, - A.I.C.P

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LIBER/FOLIO</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>TRANSACTION</u>
6 Aug, 1971	567-205	Lewis Cole Toomey & Joseph Carroll Toomey by will of Mrs. Helen Ennoss	Irwin & Patsy Lowe	Deed to 2.2A+ known as 5741-45 Furnace Ave  1st Parcel or deed described in deed of Sept 25, 1934
Sept 25, 1934	BMJR 150-22	Daniel M. Murray	James L. Ennoss & Helen L. Ennoss	Deed & <u>3 parcels of ground</u> 1st parcel - Item 1-7 of last will & T. of Barbara E. Toomey, 3 July, 1923, Wills 6-375
Sept 25, 1934	150-21	James Ennoss & Helen	Daniel M. Murray	Deed  1st Parcel - "lying on the northeast side of Elk Ridge Road, embracing the mansion and the adjoining dwelling, containing about 2.2 acres.
Feb. 27, 1906	WWLC 81-508	Mary M. Dempster	Joseph H. Toomey, Jr. & Barbara E. Toomey	Deed to 2 parcels The secondly described lot in deed is the Irwin Lowe property.  "on the East side of the Elkridge Road at the southeast corner of a lot of ground conveyed by Robert H. Brown and wife to Joseph H. Toomey and wife by deed. . .together with the buildings. . .
21 Dec 1904	80-229	Robert H. Brown & Elizabeth, of Los Angeles, Calif. & Anton Textor	Joseph H. Toomey, Jr. & Barbara	Deed to 2 lots for \$1,050 2ndly described lot is Irwin Lowe House - 2½ acres +.

HO-367 - - ELKRIDGE FURNACE STORE HOUSE

Prepared by Cleora B. Thompson, - A.I.C.P.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LIBER/FOLIO</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>TRANSACTION</u>
April 18, 1887	52-47	Great Falls Iron Co.	Robert H. Brown	Deed to 2 lots for assumption of a mortgage and debts "all those several lots or parcels of ground".
This deed refers to 2 deeds.				
No. 1 Deed of 25 Jan, 1858	52-47 19-132	Robert Howard & wife Phebe Ann Howard of also (7-181) Baltimore City of Anne Arundel County	Great Falls Iron Co. by Act of Md. of 1845, Chapter 34	Deed for \$71,000 This deed refers to Deeds (A), (B), (C) and (D)
"All and singular the lands and premises situate and lying part in Howard County and part in Anne Arundel County".				
"And also all personal property of Robert Howard. . .horses, mules, oxen, wagons and carts, hay straw, grain, feed, manure and farming utensils, furnace tools, fixtures and machinery, engine and boilers, baskets and barrows with materials for the manufacture of iron ore, coal, wood, shells. Fire brick, old iron, iron pipe, patterns, flasks, etc. and the stack of good wares and merchandise in the store of the said Howard at Elkridge Landing (Deed of 25 Jan, 1858 - liber 19 folio 132.)				
(A) 8 Nov, 1855	17-68	William W. Gleen, Trustee Also Anne Arundel County 5-366	Robert Howard and the Pres. & Director of Union Bank of Md.	Deed to No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29.
(B) 14 July, 1854	(AA 3-587)	Nicholas Brewer, Jr., Trustee	Robert Howard	A parcel containing 120 Acres <u>±</u>
(C) 29 July, 1854		William Lamborn, heirs of Daniel Lamborn	Robert Howard	
"Parcels of land with the water power".				
(D) 1850		Henry Wm. Ellicott	Robert Howard	Deed to 2 parcels of land of 80A <sub>±</sub> and 100A <sub>±</sub>

1403674204

H0-367

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: The Elkridge Furnace				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Walker's Inheritance				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 5741-45 Furnace Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Elkridge				
STATE Maryland			COUNTY: Howard	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. & Mrs. Irwin Lowe				
STREET AND NUMBER: 5741-45 Furnace Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Elkridge			STATE: Maryland	21227
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Hall of Records				
STREET AND NUMBER: Howard County Courthouse				
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City			STATE: Maryland	21043
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): Tax Map 38, Blk 4				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Howard County Historic Sites Inventory				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1976 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust				
STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle				
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis			STATE: Maryland	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

H0-367

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncolored		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

One of the oldest buildings existing in Elkridge Landing today is located on the very heavily trafficked Northeast intersection of Race and Furnace Roads.

The east wing and main body of the building faces South. It is a five bay wide, 2 bay deep, two story high brick building (laid in English garden wall bond) whose proportionally scaled windows are double-hung with 6-over-6 lites, decorated with flat wooden sills and stretcher brick flat arched lintels. It has a high pitched shingled roof with chimneys on the west and east walls.

Its rectangular entrance way located on the south elevation, is surmounted by a four lite transom and covered with a three bay wide hipped roof open portico supported by four doric columns. All the windows of the south facade have shutters.

Its east wall contains a rectangular entrance door with three lighted transom on the north bay. A central double-hung window with six-over-six lites, decorated with stretcher brick flat arched lintels is located on the second and third floors. There is evidence of a previous gabled entrance way south of the existing doorway. No interruption of the brick bond occurs and the stretcher brick flat arched lintel appears to be original to the building. Restoration of the original door has in all probability been made.

On the north wall of this east wing are five second floor windows similar to those described on the south wall. There is a central entrance with undefined transom approached by four marble steps. Three of the windows on the first floor have original shutters. None on the second do. All have flat arched stretcher brick lintels.

A two and a half story brick north wing was the original kitchen and is still used as such today. It is three bays wide, two bays deep with a central east and west rectangular entrance door. The fenestration is double-hung, holding six-over-six lites and accentuated by stretcher brick flat arched lintels.

The east brick foundation porch has been restored by the present owners and its three posts support the second story of the original open porch which has a plaster ceiling.

No windows open on the north wall which holds a large brick central kitchen chimney whose interior cast iron fire plate is inscribed "1833 Ellicott Elkridge Furnace". Five other fireplaces of the twelve in the house also have "Ellicott Elkridge Furnace".

The west elevation of this north wing has a shed roofed porch supported by two square wooden posts decorated with scholled brackets which leads to the kitchen door. Four wide stone steps lead to the porch landing.

A first floor window similar to those described, is located on either side of the door. Three similar second floor windows lie above. Two gabled dormer windows holding rectangular double-hung windows with six-over-six lites are inset into its gabled roof which runs north-south.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## B. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian      ☐ 16th Century      ☒ 18th Century      ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☒ 19th Century

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1755

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education           | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering         | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape           | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature          | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military            |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music               |  |  |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building's significance is tied to its architecture, and its role in the development of industry in the State of Maryland and the nation.

Historically this structure dates back to the early 1700's when ships came up the Patapsco River to Elkridge Landing. The original tract of land was partially surveyed by Robert Hughes. James McCubbin re-surveyed the property in 1744 and built a brick house here which later became a tavern. The original east wing still has numbers on its doors. Dr. James Walker re-surveyed McCubbins tract and several others in 1755. He combined them into a 1730-acre property which he called Walker's Inheritance. Part of this tract was sold to Caleb Dorsey who built a furnace on it.

It was used as a store for the Elkridge Furnace Company during the 1700's and later as a store for the Ellicotts Elkridge Furnace. Still later it was used as a store for the Great Falls Iron Company from 1850-1868.

During the flood of 1868 the heavy flood waters reached the hot furnaces causing the furnace to blow up.

wiped out much of the foundation.

Floods have

The existing Race Road was once a mill race for the furnace. According to John McGram it is likely that this forge at Elkridge supplied the cannon for the Revolutionary War rather than Avalon past Thomas Viaduct. Nails and crowbars were produced at Avalon. Gun Road in Baltimore County was "Avalon Forge Road" in a deed of 1891 (JWS 182:441). The Elkridge Furnace was a more likely site for casting cannon than a forge.

The mercantile system of Great Britain had discouraged industry in the colonies. The forges and iron works along the Patapsco are representative of the early development of industry in the colonies.

The foundation of this forge lie northeast of the present residence which was utilized as a tavern by James McCubbin in the mid-1700's, and later as a store and headquarters for the forge.

Mr. Lowe, the present owner of this home, has collected from the Maryland Historical Society pages of Elkridge Furnace accounts dated 1762 and 1787.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HO-367

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lowe, Irwin. "The Furnace: Tavern, Iron Works, Private Home".  
Elk Ridge: A Bicentennial Journal. (June 1976), pp. 20-27.

McGrain, John W. "Defense Efforts at Dorsey's Forge". History Trails.  
Vol. i No. C4 (Summer 1974). pp 1, 14--15.

Warfield, J. D. Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland.  
Baltimore, 1973.

Interview with Mr. & Mrs Irwin Lowe, owners of "The Furnace". Elkridge,  
Maryland. July 23, 1976.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Please see Tax Map 38

Blk 4, p. 615 567-205

2.2 Acres

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist		
ORGANIZATION Howard County Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Plan		DATE
STREET AND NUMBER: 3450 Court House Drive		
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City	STATE Maryland	21043

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature



## Elkridge Furnace Description (Continued)

A two and a half story west wing, the newest and largest part of the home was constructed sometime between 1808 and 1815. It is attached to the north wing and the east wing to create a large three-part plan.

This west wing rests against the north half of the west wall of the original structure. It is three bays wide and three bays deep with a gambrel roof. A tripartite full arched window is centered into the third story of the roof of this wing which also contains three first and second floor windows underlined by cellar windows of eight lites.

Two structural iron supports which hold two iron supportive beams connecting the east and west walls are located between the first and second floor and the second and third floor. A basement and first floor entrance on the east wall of this west wing lead into the original structure which has been used both as a store and as a tavern.

The main entrance to this late addition is on the east bay of the south wall.

It is a double door with five rectangular wooden panels on each side flanked by a vertical leaden paned window decorated with a central oval. A wooden frame encases this door and its side lites. This south wall is laid in flemish bond brick, with stretcher brick flat-arched lintels decorating the two first floor double-hung windows which hold six-over-six lites. A shed roofed one story open porch runs along the south wall supported by four doric columns.

A simple gabled roof finished log house lies west of the home. Its corners are dove tailed and the lumber used in it may be either from a ship or used previously in a wad and dobble construction. It has a south rectangular entrance with a rectangular window lying in the east bay. It dates from 1810-1820 or earlier.

Another simple gabled roofed wooden structure lies west of this and north of it the foundation of the old spring house.

The original well is located south of these two buildings.

## Elkridge Furnace Significance (Continued)

"Delivered for Patuxent Quarters a broad hoe." 4/7 May 27, 1762.

Mr. Lowe has also collected old bricks from an old well or furnace.

Large cobblestone brick have also been found on the property which furnishes evidence of a previous early building in the 1600's. Original cast iron drain pipes dating from the 1700's have been found and traces of an addition on the north and west walls of the kitchen.

Two tinted green glass panes in the central second floor window of the kitchen were manufactured previous to 1820.

Architecturally the newest part of the building tells an interesting story. Its west wall contains an interesting full arched third floor window which is similar to that of the Carroll Mansion and Mt. Clare in the city of Baltimore.

Another notable feature of the west wing is the gambrel roofed dormer window centered into the gable roof of the south elevation. Its interior staircase is identical to one in the Baltimore Art Museum. Interesting woodwork and plaster decoration also characterizes the interior of the house.

Looking at the complex from the southwest three buildings emerge, well-defined and separate, though complementary in scale, material and proportion.

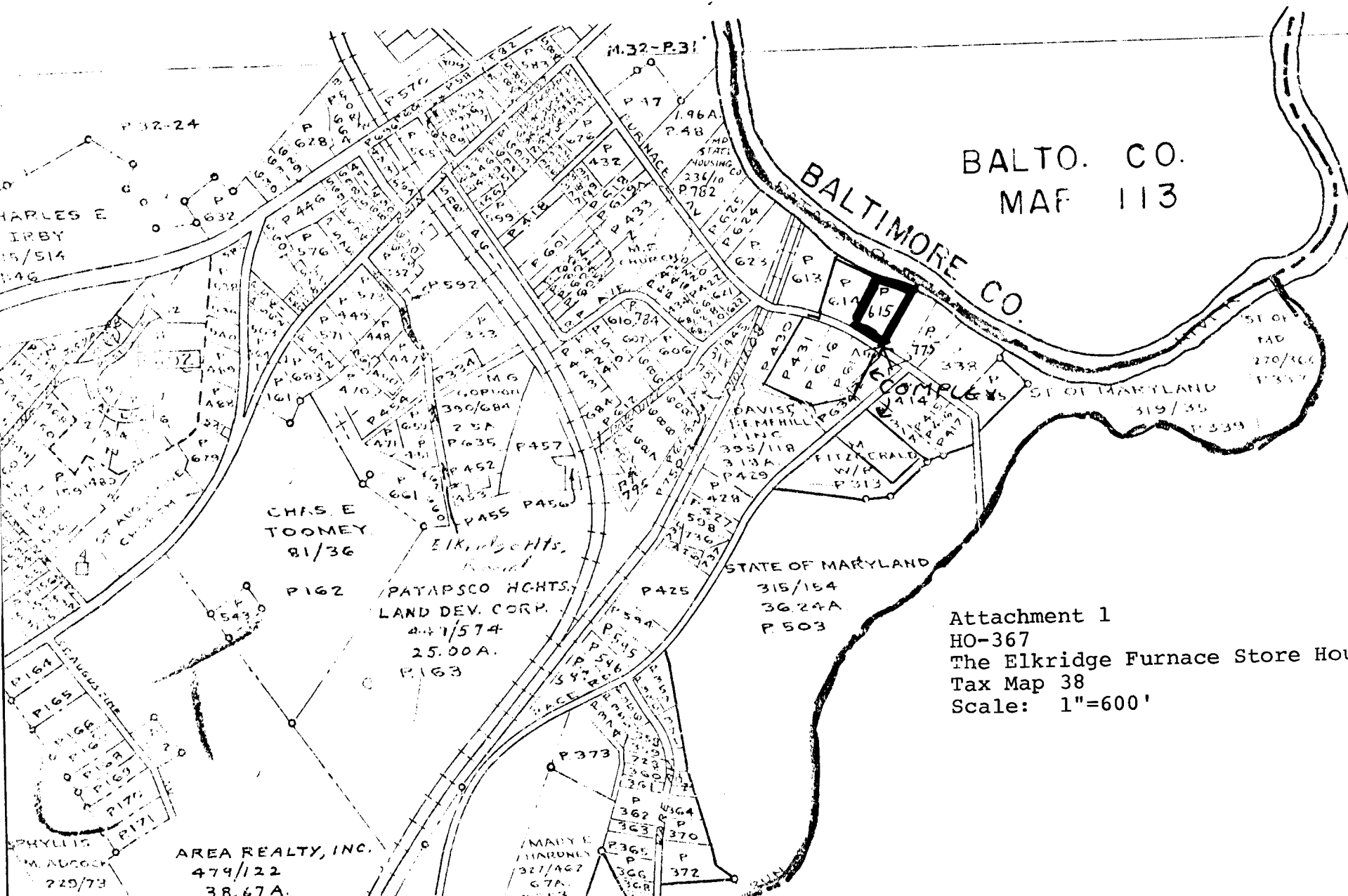
The oldest structure, the tavern, sits to the east. The kitchen appears almost as a separate building to the north and the new west wing rests against the tavern's west wall.

Chimneys are an outstanding feature of the roof profile. A chimney is located on the east and west wall of the tavern and two chimneys are located in the center of the west wing. Another chimney is located on the north wall of the kitchen. Fireplaces are located on the first, second, and third floors. There are five fireplaces with Ellicott Elkridge Furnace fire plates. The roof of the kitchen intersects with the roof of the west wing. Asphalt shingles closely resemble shake shingles.

Nehemiah Rowles sold the property to Andrew and John Ellicott in 1833. Since 1820 they had been operating the furnace but in 1833 rebuilt it. The Elkridge Furnace then became the Ellicott Elkridge Furnace.

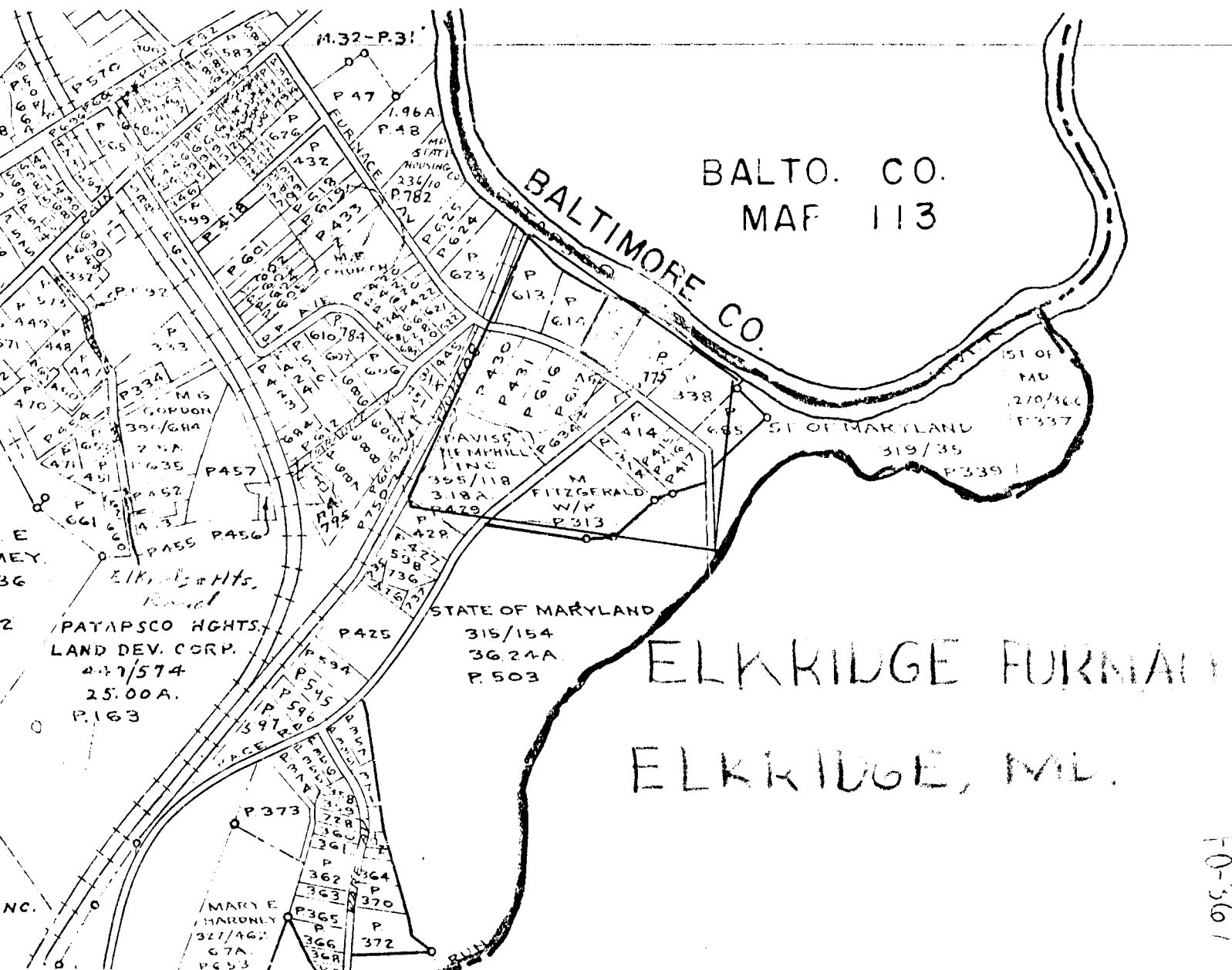
The Baltimore American newspaper in June 1895, wrote an article about three ancient iron pigs - cast iron weighing 100 pounds. They were stamped "Elkridge 1755", "Elkridge 1769", and "Pre cipo" with an obliterated date.

As a tavern, an iron works and now a private residence, this building complex dates from at least 1755. It is significant for its role played in commerce and industry as well as architecturally representative of the fine brick buildings constructed by the early settlers of Howard County.



Attachment 1  
HO-367  
The Elkrige Furnace Store House  
Tax Map 38  
Scale: 1"=600'

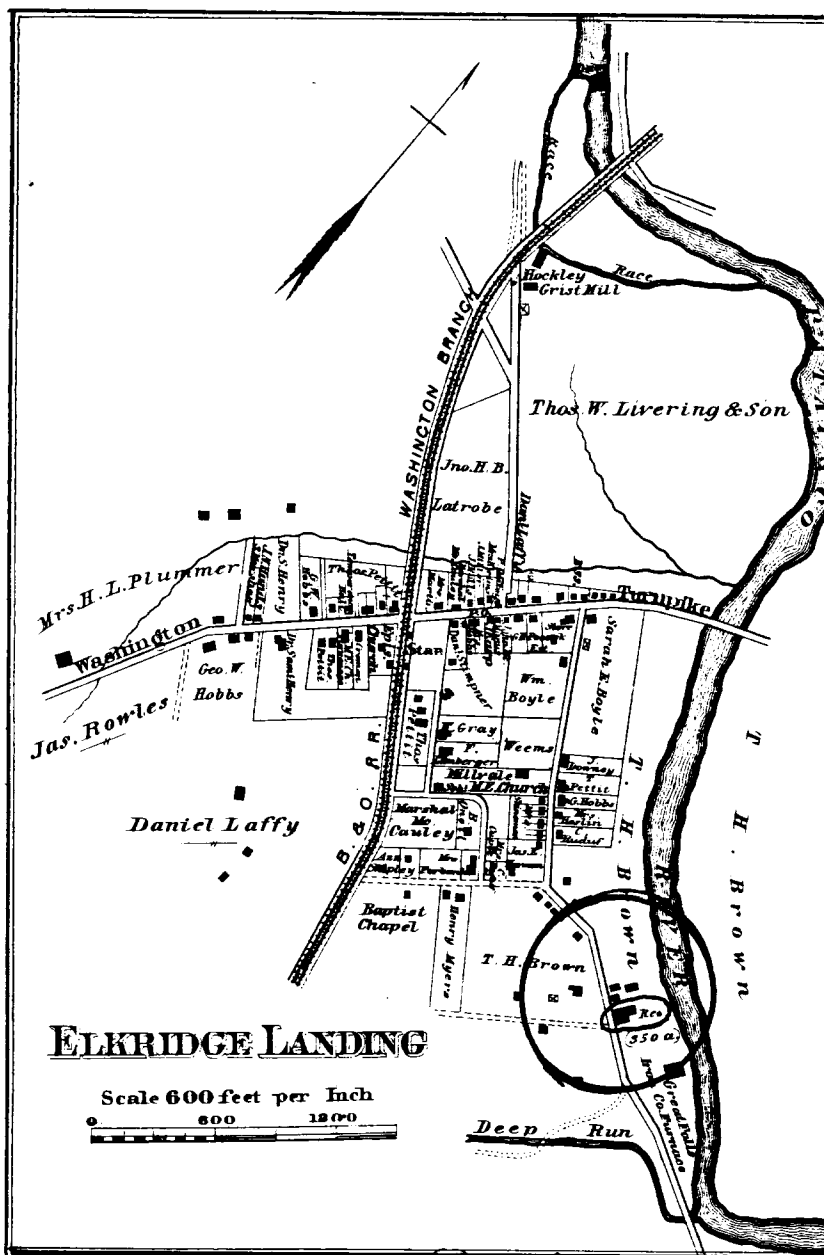




FO-367







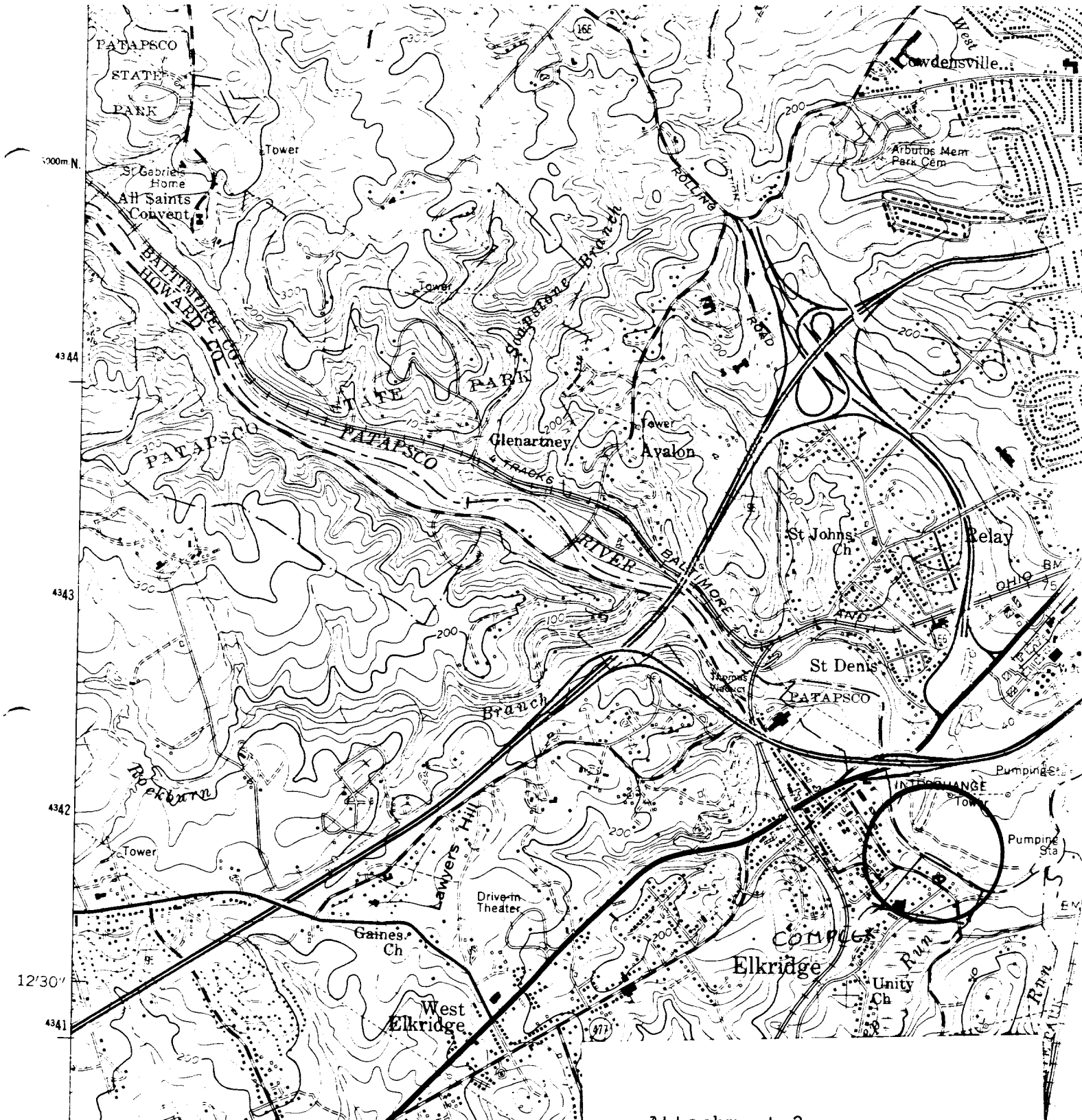
# **Elkridge Landing Business Notices.**

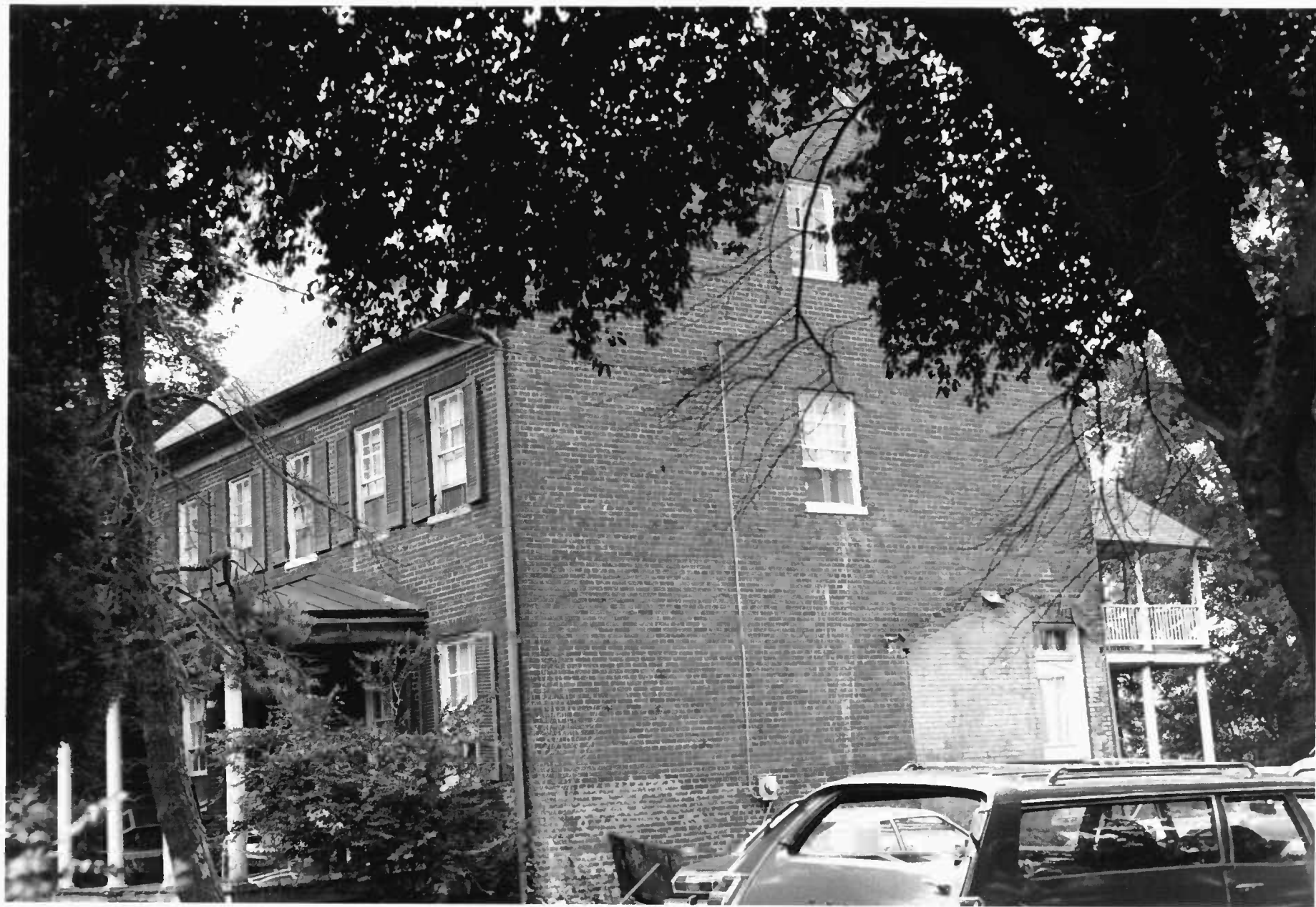
<b>ATTORNEYS AT LAW.</b>
ROBERT A. DOBBINS.
GEORGE W. DOBBINS, 42 St. Paul street, Baltimore.
THOMAS M. DOBBINS, 42 St. Paul street, Baltimore.
<b>BLACHSMITHS AND WHEEL- WRIGHTS.</b>
JOHN BRYAN.
JOHN B. HELM.
<b>CARPENTER.</b>
JAMES ROWLES.
<b>ENGINEER.</b>
JOHN N. HANDS.
<b>GENERAL MERCHANTS.</b>
DANIEL LAFFY.
MARSHALL McCAULEY.
JOSEPH H. TALBOT.
GEORGE W. POOCOCK.
<b>POST MASTER.</b>
JAMES EARP.
<b>TINSMITH.</b>
GEORGE LANOR, Tin and Sheet Iron Worker, Roofing and Spouting, etc.



# **FIRST DISTRICT** **HOWARD COUNTY**

Scale 3 Inches per Mile





HO-366 DIST 1  
ELKRIDGE FURNACE

CLIFFORD BROWN, JR.  
PLANNING CONSULTANT  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



Name: HO-367

Elkridge Furnace Store House  
Location: Elkridge, Maryland

Photographer: Cleora B. Thompson, A.I.C.P.

Date of photograph: June, 1980

Negatives in possession of the Maryland Historical Trust

View: South elevation of house

Photographer looking: North

Photograph number: 1 of 10





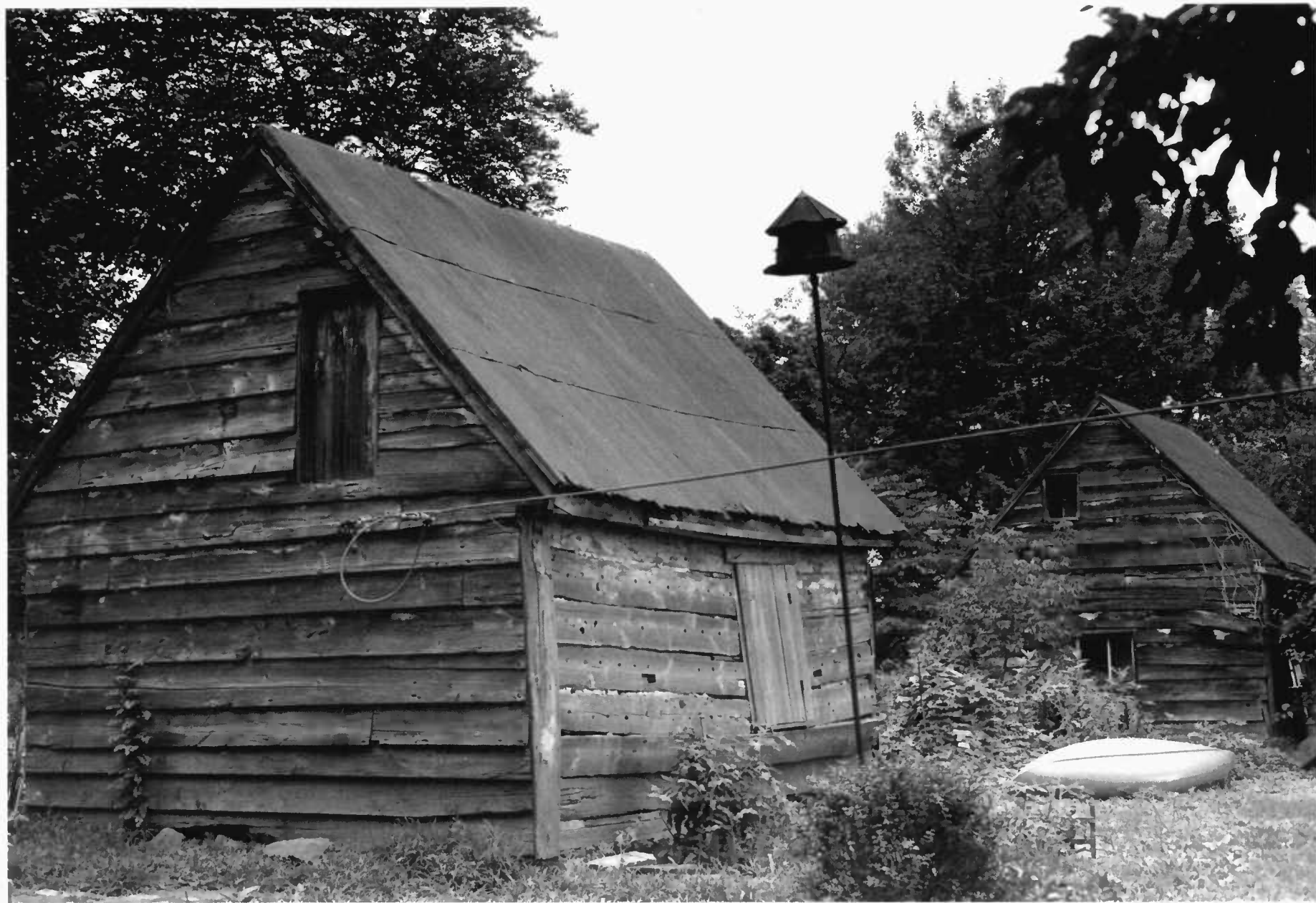
HO-366 DIST 1  
ELKRIDGE FURNACE

CLEORA BROWN THOMPSON  
PLANNING & SURVEY  
HISTORICAL SITE SURVEY



Name: HO-367  
Elkridge Furnace Store House  
Location: Elkridge, Maryland

Photographer: Cleora B. Thompson, A.I.C.P.  
Date of photograph: June, 1980  
Negatives in possession of the Maryland Historical Trust  
View: West elevation of kitchen and west wing  
Photographer looking: East  
Photograph number: 6 of 10



367  
HO-~~366~~ DIST 1  
ELKRIDGE FURNACE





HO- 367

LOG HOUSE

ELKRIDGE

FURNACE HOUSE



ELKRIDGE FURNACE COMPLEX NO-367

HOWARD CO., MD

PETER KURTZE 3/88

NEG AT MD SHPO

FURNACE RUINS - NOT for certain

~~19/19~~

MAR 10 1988